PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
AMENDMENTS OF THE CLAIMS

(PCT Rule 62 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 417)

To:

United States Patent and Trademark
Office
(Box PCT)
Crystal Plaza 2
Washington, DC 20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as International Preliminary Examining Authority

Date of mailing:	
06 October 1997 (06.10.97)	
International application No.: PCT/US97/02187	International filing date: 06 February 1997 (06.02.97)

Applicant:
CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON et al

The International Bureau hereby informs the International Preliminary Examining Authority that no amendments under Article 19 have been received by the International Bureau (Administrative Instructions, Section 417)

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorised officer:

Ting Zhao

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/02187

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A01H 5/00, 5/10; C12N 15/52; 15/82
US CL :800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, DIALOG

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---- Y	WO 94/11516 A1 (LIGHTNER et al) 26 May 1994, especially pages 40-44 and 109.	1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 16, 17, 22, 23, 27-34 ---------- 2, 4-9, 12-15, 18, 21, 24-26

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E"	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search 03 JUNE 1997	Date of mailing of the international search report 30 JUL 1997
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)(July 1992)*

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

To:

United States Patent and Trademark Office
(Box PCT)
Crystal Plaza 2
Washington, DC 20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 06 October 1997 (06.10.97)	
International application No. PCT/US97/02187	**Applicant's or agent's file reference** CIW21642-3
International filing date (day/month/year) 06 February 1997 (06.02.97)	**Priority date** (day/month/year) 06 February 1996 (06.02.96)
Applicant BROUN, Pierre et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

[X] in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

29 August 1997 (29.08.97)

[ ] in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election [X] was

[ ] was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO **34, chemin des Colombettes** **1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland**	Authorized officer A. Addae-Ruesch
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PCT

REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Application No. 09/117921

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's file reference *(if desired) (12 characters maximum)* CIW21642-3

Box No. I TITLE OF INVENTION

PRODUCTION OF HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS.

Box No. II APPLICANT

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
1530 P. Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20016
United States of America.

☐ This person is also inventor.

Telephone No.

Facsimile No.

Teleprinter No.

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality: US

State *(i.e. country)* of residence: US

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☒ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANT(S) AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTOR(S)

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

MONSANTO COMPANY, INC.
700 Chesterfield Parkway North,
St. Louis, Missouri 63198
United States of America.

This person is:

☒ applicant only

☐ applicant and inventor

☐ inventor only *(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)*

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality: US

State *(i.e. country)* of residence: US

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☒ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on a continuation sheet.

Box No. IV AGENT OR COMMON REPRESENTATIVE; OR ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as: ☒ agent ☐ common representative

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country.)*

KOKULIS, Paul N.
CUSHMAN DARBY & CUSHMAN
Intellectual Property Group of
PILLSBURY MADISON & SUTRO
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
United States of America.

Telephone No. 202 861 3000

Facsimile No 202 822 0944

Teleprinter No 6714627 CUSH

☐ Mark this check-box where no agent or common representative is/has been appointed and the space above is used instead to indicate a special address to which correspondence should be sent.

Continuation of Box No. III FURTHER APPLICANTS AND/OR (FURTHER) INVENTORS

If none of the following sub-boxes is used, this sheet is not to be included in the request.

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

BROUN, Pierre
1249 Capuchino
Burlingame, California 94010
United States of America.

This person is:
- ☐ applicant only
- ☐ applicant and inventor
- ☒ inventor only *(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)*

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality:

State *(i.e. country)* of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

van de LOO, Frank
11 Fowles Street,
Weston, ACT, 2611
Australia

This person is:
- ☐ applicant only
- ☐ applicant and inventor
- ☒ inventor only *(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)*

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality:

State *(i.e. country)* of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

BODDUPALLI, Sekhar S.
572 Enchanted Parkway,
Manchester, Missouri 63021
United States of America.

This person is:
- ☐ applicant only
- ☐ applicant and inventor
- ☒ inventor only *(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)*

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality:

State *(i.e. country)* of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

Name and address: *(Family name followed by given name; for a legal entity, full official designation. The address must include postal code and name of country. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below.)*

SOMERVILLE, Chris
5 Valley Oak,
Portola Valley, California 94028
United States of America.

This person is:
- ☐ applicant only
- ☐ applicant and inventor
- ☒ inventor only *(If this check-box is marked, do not fill in below.)*

State *(i.e. country)* of nationality:

State *(i.e. country)* of residence:

This person is applicant for the purposes of: ☐ all designated States ☐ all designated States except the United States of America ☐ the United States of America only ☐ the States indicated in the Supplemental Box

☐ Further applicants and/or (further) inventors are indicated on another continuation sheet.

Supplemental Box *If the Supplemental Box is not used, this sheet need not be included in the request.*

Use this box in the following cases:

1. If, in any of the Boxes, the space is insufficient to furnish all the information:	*In such case, write "Continuation of Box No. ..." [indicate the number of the Box] and furnish the information in the same manner as required according to the captions of the Box in which the space was insufficient;*
in particular:	
(i) if more than two persons are involved as applicants and/or inventors and no "continuation sheet" is available:	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. III" and indicate for each additional person the same type of information as required in Box No. III. The country of the address indicated in this Box is the applicant's State (i.e. country) of residence if no State of residence is indicated below;*
(ii) if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the indication "the States indicated in the Supplemental Box" is checked:	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Boxes No. II and No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the applicant(s) involved and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is applicant;*
(iii) if, in Box No. II or in any of the sub-boxes of Box No. III, the inventor or the inventor/applicant is not inventor for the purposes of all designated States or for the purposes of the United States of America:	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. II" or "Continuation of Box No. III" or "Continuation of Boxes No. II and No. III" (as the case may be), indicate the name of the inventor(s) and, next to (each) such name, the State(s) (and/or, where applicable, ARIPO, Eurasian, European or OAPI patent) for the purposes of which the named person is inventor;*
(iv) if, in addition to the agent(s) indicated in Box No. IV, there are further agents:	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. IV" and indicate for each further agent the same type of information as required in Box No. IV;*
(v) if, in Box No. V, the name of any State (or OAPI) is accompanied by the indication "patent of addition," or "certificate of addition," or if, in Box No. V, the name of the United States of America is accompanied by an indication "Continuation" or "Continuation-in-part":	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. V" and the name of each State involved (or OAPI), and after the name of each such State (or OAPI), the number of the parent title or parent application and the date of grant of the parent title or filing of the parent application;*
(vi) if there are more than three earlier applications whose priority is claimed:	*in such case, write "Continuation of Box No. VI" and indicate for each additional earlier application the same type of information as required in Box No. VI.*
2. If the applicant claims, in respect of any designated Office, the benefits of provisions of the national law concerning non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty:	*in such case, write "Statement Concerning Non-Prejudicial Disclosures or Exceptions to Lack of Novelty" and furnish that statement below.*

BOX IV. Agent or Common Representative: (Continued)

KOKULIS, Paul N.	BIRD, Donald J.	SIMENAUER, Jeffrey A.
LIPPITT, Raymond F.	TALTAVULL, W.Warren	GROSSMAN, Barry L.
KNIGHT, G. Lloyd	GOWDEY, Peter W.	EDGELL, G. Paul
LOVE, Carl G.	LAZAR, Dale S.	ECCLESTON, Lynn E.
MARTIN, Edgar H.	PERRY, Glenn J.	JAKOPIN, David A.
WEST, William K.Jr.	COLTON, Kendrew H.	PAULSON, Mark G.
JOYCE, Kevin E.	COMUNTZIS, Chris	BERQUIST, James D.
PRINCE, Edward M.	WHITE, Paul E.,Jr.	KLIMA, Timothy J.
BRINKMAN, David W.	LESTER, Michelle N.	MORAN, John P.
SIRILLA, George M.	GLASIER, Stephen C.	McQUADE, Paul F.

All attorneys are partners of the firm CUSHMAN DARBY & CUSHMAN, Intellectual Property Group of **PILLSBURY, MADISON & SUTRO, LLP.** The address, telephone number, facsimile number and teleprinter number of all the above attorneys are as indicated in Box IV.

Box No.V DESIGNATION OF STATES

The following designations are hereby made under Rule 4.9(a) *(mark the applicable check-boxes; at least one must be marked)*:

Regional Patent

- [X] AP ARIPO Patent: KE Kenya, LS Lesotho, MW Malawi, SD Sudan, SZ Swaziland, UG Uganda, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT
- [X] EA Eurasian Patent: AM Armenia, AZ Azerbaijan, BY Belarus, KG Kyrgyzstan, KZ Kazakstan, MD Republic of Moldova, RU Russian Federation, TJ Tajikistan, TM Turkmenistan, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT
- [X] EP European Patent: AT Austria, BE Belgium, CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein, DE Germany, DK Denmark, ES Spain, FI Finland, FR France, GB United Kingdom, GR Greece, IE Ireland, IT Italy, LU Luxembourg, MC Monaco, NL Netherlands, PT Portugal, SE Sweden, and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT
- [X] OA OAPI Patent: BF Burkina Faso, BJ Benin, CF Central African Republic, CG Congo, CI Côte d'Ivoire, CM Cameroon, GA Gabon, GN Guinea, ML Mali, MR Mauritania, NE Niger, SN Senegal, TD Chad, TG Togo, and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT *(if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line)* .....

National Patent *(if other kind of protection or treatment desired, specify on dotted line)*:

- [X] AL Albania .....
- [X] AM Armenia .....
- [X] AT Austria .....
- [X] AU Australia .....
- [X] AZ Azerbaijan
- [X] BA Bosnia and Herzegovina
- [X] BB Barbados
- [X] BG Bulgaria .....
- [X] BR Brazil .....
- [X] BY Belarus
- [X] CA Canada
- [X] CH and LI Switzerland and Liechtenstein
- [X] CN China .....
- [X] CU Cuba .....
- [X] CZ Czech Republic .....
- [X] DE Germany .....
- [X] DK Denmark .....
- [X] EE Estonia .....
- [X] ES Spain .....
- [X] FI Finland .....
- [X] GB United Kingdom
- [X] GE Georgia .....
- [X] HU Hungary .....
- [X] IL Israel .....
- [X] IS Iceland
- [X] JP Japan .....
- [X] KE Kenya .....
- [X] KG Kyrgyzstan .....
- [X] KP Democratic People's Republic of Korea .....
- [X] KR Republic of Korea
- [X] KZ Kazakstan .....
- [X] LC Saint Lucia
- [X] LK Sri Lanka
- [X] LR Liberia
- [X] LS Lesotho .....
- [X] LT Lithuania
- [X] LU Luxembourg .....
- [X] LV Latvia
- [X] MD Republic of Moldova .....
- [X] MG Madagascar .....
- [X] MK The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia .....
- [X] MN Mongolia
- [X] MW Malawi .....
- [X] MX Mexico .....
- [X] NO Norway
- [X] NZ New Zealand .....
- [X] PL Poland .....
- [X] PT Portugal .....
- [X] RO Romania
- [X] RU Russian Federation .....
- [X] SD Sudan
- [X] SE Sweden
- [X] SG Singapore
- [X] SI Slovenia .....
- [X] SK Slovakia .....
- [X] TJ Tajikistan .....
- [X] TM Turkmenistan .....
- [X] TR Turkey .....
- [X] TT Trinidad and Tobago .....
- [X] UA Ukraine .....
- [X] UG Uganda .....
- [X] US United States of America a continuation of US 08/597313 filed Feb.6/96
- [X] UZ Uzbekistan
- [X] VN Viet Nam .....

Check-boxes reserved for designating States (for the purposes of a national patent) which have become party to the PCT after issuance of this sheet:

- [ ] .....
- [ ] .....
- [ ] .....
- [ ] .....

In addition to the designations made above, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except the designation(s) of _____

The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit. *(Confirmation of a designation consists of the filing of a notice specifying that designation and the payment of the designation and confirmation fees. Confirmation must reach the receiving Office within the 15-month time limit.)*

Box No. VI PRIORITY CLAIM Further priority claims are indicated in the Supplemental Box ☐

The priority of the following earlier application(s) is hereby claimed:

Country *(in which, or for which, the application was filed)*	Filing Date *(day/month/year)*	Application No.	Office of filing *(only for regional or international application)*
item (1) US	(06.02.96) 06 February 1996	08/597,313	
item (2)			
item (3)			

Mark the following check-box if the certified copy of the earlier application is to be issued by the Office which for the purposes of the present international application is the receiving Office (a fee may be required):

[X] The receiving Office is hereby requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s): (1)

Box No. VII INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Choice of International Searching Authority (ISA) *(If two or more International Searching Authorities are competent to carry out the international search, indicate the Authority chosen; the two-letter code may be used):* ISA / US

Earlier search *Fill in where a search (international, international-type or other) by the International Searching Authority has already been carried out or requested and the Authority is now requested to base the international search, to the extent possible, on the results of that earlier search. Identify such search or request either by reference to the relevant application (or the translation thereof) or by reference to the search request:*

Country (or regional Office):	Date *(day/month/year)*:	Number:
US	06 February 1996	08/597 313

Box No. VIII CHECK LIST

This international application contains the following number of sheets:

1. request	5	sheets
2. description	97	sheets
3. claims	5	sheets
4. abstract	1	sheets
5. drawings	18	sheets
Total	126	sheets

This international application is accompanied by the item(s) marked below:

1. [*] separate signed power of attorney to be furnished under ART 14.
2. [ ] copy of general power of attorney
3. [ ] statement explaining lack of signature
4. [ ] priority document(s) *identified in Box No. VI as item(s):*
5. [X] fee calculation sheet
6. [ ] separate indications concerning deposited microorganisms
7. [X] nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing (diskette)
8. [X] other *(specify)*: Form PTO 1382

Figure No. _____ of the drawings (if any) should accompany the abstract when it is published.

Box No. IX SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR AGENT

Next to each signature, indicate the name of the person signing and the capacity in which the person signs (if such capacity is not obvious from reading the request).

Paul N. Kokulis

For receiving Office use only

1. Date of actual receipt of the purported international application:	2. Drawings: ☐ received: ☐ not received:
3. Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application:	
4. Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2):	
5. International Searching Authority specified by the applicant: ISA /	6. ☐ Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid

For International Bureau use only

Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/02187

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :A01H 5/00, 5/10; C12N 15/52; 15/82
US CL :800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, DIALOG

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---- Y	WO 94/11516 A1 (LIGHTNER et al) 26 May 1994, especially pages 40-44 and 109.	1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 16, 17, 22, 23, 27-34 ---------- 2, 4-9, 12-15, 18, 21, 24-26

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E"	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search 03 JUNE 1997	Date of mailing of the international search report 30 JUL 1997
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)(July 1992)*

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SUBMISSION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

To:

KOKULIS, Paul, N.
Cushman Darby & Cushman
Intellectual Property Group
Pillsbury Madison & Sutro
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	
29 May 1997 (29.05.97)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference	**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**
CIW21642-3	

International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/US97/02187	06 February 1997 (06.02.97)	06 February 1996 (06.02.96)

Applicant

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON et al

The applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to the following application(s):

Priority application No:	Priority date:	Priority country:	Date of receipt of priority document:
08/597,313	06 Feb 1996 (06.02.96)	US	27 May 1997 (27.05.97)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer L. Panakal
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 730.91.11

Form PCT/IB/304 (July 1992)

001528931

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

REC'D 20 MAY 1998
WIPO PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CIW 21642-3	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/US97/02187	International filing date *(day/month/year)* 06 FEBRUARY 1997	Priority date *(day/month/year)* 06 FEBRUARY 1996
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): A01H 5/00, 5/10; C12N 15/52; 15/82 and US Cl.: 800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6		
Applicant CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets.

   ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

   These annexes consist of a total of 0 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

   I ☒ Basis of the report

   II ☐ Priority

   III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

   IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention

   V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

   VI ☐ Certain documents cited

   VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application

   VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
29 AUGUST 1997	24 MARCH 1998
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 1994)*

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/02187

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments)*:

[X] the international application as originally filed.

[X] the description, pages 1-97 , as originally filed.
pages NONE , filed with the demand.
pages NONE , filed with the letter of _____.
pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____.

[X] the claims, Nos. 1-34 , as originally filed.
Nos. NONE , as amended under Article 19.
Nos. NONE , filed with the demand.
Nos. NONE , filed with the letter of _____.
Nos. _____ , filed with the letter of _____.

[X] the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ 1-15 , as originally filed.
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the demand.
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the letter of _____.
sheets/~~fig~~ _____ , filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

[X] the description, pages NONE.

[X] the claims, Nos. NONE.

[X] the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ NONE.

3. [ ] This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/02187

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	YES
	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	YES
	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	YES
	Claims	(Please See supplemental sheet)	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 16, 17, 22, 23 and 27-34 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY.
E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY teach a method of altering an amount of unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant by transforming a plant with a gene encoding a protein having fatty acid hydroxylase or fatty acid desaturase activity and obtaining a transformed regenerated plant, including the products of said plant.

Claims 1-34 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY. E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY teach a method of altering an amount of unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant by transforming a plant with a gene encoding a protein having fatty acid hydroxylase or fatty acid desaturase activity and obtaining a transformed regenerated plant, including the products of said plant. E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY do not specifically teach a mutant gene or a gene with a sequence the same or similar to that of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3 or 4 or from Ricinus or Lequerella. Given the recognition of those skilled in the art of the value of altering an amount of unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant by transforming a plant with a gene encoding a protein having fatty acid hydroxylase or fatty acid desaturase activity and obtaining a transformed regenerated plant, as taught by E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY, it would have been obvious to use the methods taught by E. I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY and to modify them by substituting another gene sequence encoding a protein having fatty acid hydroxylase or fatty acid desaturase activity, and resulting in the same effect.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12-15, 18-21 and 24-26 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the use of the mutant sequence of the claims.

(Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

Supplemental Box
(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

V. 1. REASONED STATEMENTS:
The report as to Novelty was positive (YES) with respect to claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12-15, 18-21, 24-26.
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The report as to Inventive Step was negative (NO) with respect to claims 1-34 .
The report as to Industrial Applicability was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-34 .
The report as to Industrial Applicability was negative (NO) with respect to claims NONE.

V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):
Claims 1-34 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4, as the claimed invention would be useful in agriculture.

---------- NEW CITATIONS ----------
NONE

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CIW 21642-3	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/US97/02187	International filing date *(day/month/year)* 06 FEBRUARY 1997	Priority date *(day/month/year)* 06 FEBRUARY 1996
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): A01H 5/00, 5/10; C12N 15/52; 15/82 and US Cl.: 800/205; 435/172.3, 419; 536/23.6		
Applicant CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets.

   ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

   These annexes consist of a total of 0 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

   I ☒ Basis of the report

   II ☐ Priority

   III ☐ Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

   IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention

   V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

   VI ☐ Certain documents cited

   VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application

   VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
29 AUGUST 1997	24 MARCH 1998
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 1994)*

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International application No.
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Claims 1-34 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4, as the claimed invention would be useful in agriculture.

---------- NEW CITATIONS ----------
NONE

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTE ON INFORMAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE APPLICANT

(PCT Rule 66.6)

International application No.	Applicant's or agent's file reference	Date of informal communication *(day/month/year)*
PCT/US97/02187	CIW 21642-3	25 MARCH 1998

Applicant
CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON

Communication	Participants	☐ identity checked	☒ authorization checked	☐ personally known
☒ by telephone	☐ Applicant:			
☐ personal	☒ Agent: Mr. Kokulis			
	☒ Examiner(s): ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN			

Summary of communication:

Applicant's representative did not indicate that a response to the 408 was filed.

☐ ~~An extension of time limit is granted (Form PCT/IPEA/427).~~

☒ A copy of this note is being sent to the applicant with Form ~~PCT/IPEA/429.~~ PCT/IPEA/424.

Applicant/Agent	Authorized officer of IPEA/US
Mr. Kokulis	ELIZABETH F. MCELWAIN
	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

Form PCT/IPEA/428 (July 1992)★

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US 08/597,313 (CON)
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(71) Applicants *(for all designated States except US)*: CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON [US/US]; 1530 P. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20016 (US). MONSANTO COMPANY, INC. [US/US]; 700 Chesterfield Parkway North, St. Louis, MO 63198 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: BROUN, Pierre [FR/US]; 1249 Capuchino, Burlingame, CA 94010 (US). VAN DE LOO, Frank [AU/AU]; 11 Fowles Street, Weston, ACT 2611 (AU). BODDUPALLI, Sekhar, S. [IN/US]; 572 Enchanted Parkway, Manchester, MO 63021 (US). SOMERVILLE, Chris [US/US]; 5 Valley Oak, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (US).

(74) Agents: KOKULIS, Paul, N. et al.; Cushman Darby & Cushman, Intellectual Property Group of Pillsbury Madison & Sutro, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005 (US).

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(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS

(57) Abstract

This invention relates to plant fatty acid hydroxylases. Methods to use conserved amino acid or nucleotide sequences to obtain plant fatty acid hydroxylases are described. Also described is the use of cDNA clones encoding a plant hydroxylase to produce a family of hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants. In addition, the use of genes encoding fatty acid hydroxylases or desaturases to alter the level of lipid fatty acid unsaturation in transgenic plants is described.

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PRODUCTION OF HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS IN GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention concerns the identification of nucleic acid sequences and constructs, and methods related thereto, and the use of these sequences and constructs to produce genetically modified plants for the purpose of altering the fatty acid composition of plant oils, waxes and related compounds.

DEFINITIONS

The subject of this invention is a class of enzymes that introduce a hydroxyl group into several different fatty acids resulting in the production of several different kinds of hydroxylated fatty acids. In particular, these enzymes catalyze hydroxylation of oleic acid to 12-hydroxy oleic acid and icosenoic acid to 14-hydroxy icosenoic acid. Other fatty acids such as palmitoleic and erucic acids may also be substrates. Since it is not possible to refer to the enzyme by reference to a unique substrate or product, the enzyme is referred throughout as kappa hydroxylase to indicate that the enzyme introduces the hydroxyl three carbons distal (i.e., away from the carboxyl carbon of the acyl chain) from a double bond located near the center of the acyl chain.

The following fatty acids are also the subject of this invention: ricinoleic acid, 12-hydroxyoctadec-*cis*-9-enoic acid (12OH-18:$1^{cis\Delta 9}$); lesquerolic acid, 14-hydroxy-*cis*-11-icosenoic acid (14OH-20:$1^{cis\Delta 11}$); densipolic acid, 12-hydroxyoctadec-*cis*-9,15-dienoic acid (12OH-18:$2^{cis\Delta 9,15}$); auricolic acid, 14-hydroxy-*cis*-11,17-icosadienoic acid (14OH-

20:2$^{cis\Delta 11,17}$); hydroxyerucic, 16-hydroxydocos-*cis*-13-enoic acid (16OH-22:1$^{cis\Delta 13}$); hydroxypalmitoleic, 12-hydroxyhexadec-*cis*-9-enoic (12OH-16:1$^{cis\Delta 9}$); icosenoic acid (20:1$^{cis\Delta 11}$). It will be noted that icosenoic acid is spelled eicosenoic acid in some countries.

BACKGROUND

Extensive surveys of the fatty acid composition of seed oils from different species of higher plants have resulted in the identification of at least 33 structurally distinct monohydroxylated plant fatty acids, and 12 different polyhydroxylated fatty acids that are accumulated by one or more plant species (reviewed by van de Loo et al., 1993). Ricinoleic acid, the principal constituent of the seed oil from the castor plant *Ricinus communis* (L.), is of commercial importance. The present inventors have cloned a gene from this species that encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase, and have used this gene to produce ricinoleic acid in transgenic plants of other species. Some of this scientific evidence has been published by the present inventors (van de Loo et al., 1995).

The use of the castor hydroxylase gene to also produce other hydroxylated fatty acids such as lesquerolic acid, densipolic acid, hydroxypalmitoleic, hydroxyerucic and auricolic acid in transgenic plants is the subject of this invention. In addition, the identification of a gene encoding a homologous hydroxylase from *Lesquerella fendleri*, and the use of this gene to produce these hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants is the subject of this invention.

Castor is a minor oilseed crop. Approximately 50% of the seed weight is oil (triacylglycerol) in which 85-90% of total fatty acids are the hydroxylated fatty acid, ricinoleic acid. Oil pressed or extracted from castor seeds has many industrial uses based upon the properties endowed by the hydroxylated fatty acid. The most important uses are production of paints and varnishes, nylon-type synthetic polymers, resins, lubricants, and cosmetics (Atsmon, 1989).

In addition to oil, the castor seed contains the extremely toxic protein ricin, allergenic proteins, and the alkaloid ricinine. These constituents preclude the use of the untreated seed meal (following oil extraction) as a livestock feed, normally an important economic aspect of oilseed utilization. Furthermore, with the variable nature of castor plants and a lack of investment in breeding, castor has few favorable agronomic characteristics.

For a combination of these reasons, castor is no longer grown in the United States and the development of an alternative domestic source of hydroxylated fatty acids would be attractive. The production of ricinoleic acid, the important constituent of castor oil, in an established oilseed crop through genetic engineering would be a particularly effective means of creating a domestic source.

Because there is no practical source of lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic acids from plants that are adapted to modern agricultural practices, there is currently no large-scale use of these fatty acids by industry. However, the fatty

acids would have uses similar to those of ricinoleic acid if they could be produced in large quantities at comparable cost to other plant-derived fatty acids (Smith, 1985).

Plant species, such as certain species in the genus *Lesquerella*, that accumulate a high proportion of these fatty acids, have not been domesticated and are not currently considered a practical source of fatty acids (Hirsinger, 1989). This invention represents a useful step toward the eventual production of these and other hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants of agricultural importance.

The taxonomic relationships between plants having similar or identical kinds of unusual fatty acids have been examined (van de Loo et al., 1993). In some cases, particular fatty acids occur mostly or solely in related taxa. In other cases there does not appear to be a direct link between taxonomic relationships and the occurrence of unusual fatty acids. In this respect, ricinoleic acid has now been identified in 12 genera from 10 families (reviewed in van de Loo et al., 1993). Thus, it appears that the ability to synthesize hydroxylated fatty acids has evolved several times independently during the radiation of the angiosperms. This suggested to us that the enzymes which introduce hydroxyl groups into fatty acids arose by minor modifications of a related enzyme.

Indeed, as shown herein, the sequence similarity between Δ12 fatty acid desaturases and the kappa hydroxylase from castor is so high that it is not possible to unambiguously determine whether a particular enzyme is a desaturase or a hydroxylase

on the basis of evidence in the scientific literature. Similarly, a patent application (PCT WO 94/11516) that purports to teach the isolation and use of Δ12 fatty acid desaturases does not teach how to distinguish a hydroxylase from a desaturase. In view of the importance of being able to distinguish between these activities for the purpose of genetic engineering of plant oils, the utility of that application is limited to the several instances where direct experimental evidence (e.g., altered fatty acid composition in transgenic plants) was presented to support the assignment of function. A method for distinguishing between fatty acid desaturases and fatty acid hydroxylases on the basis of amino acid sequence of the enzyme is also a subject of this invention.

A feature of hydroxylated or other unusual fatty acids is that they are generally confined to seed triacylglycerols, being largely excluded from the polar lipids by unknown mechanisms (Battey and Ohlrogge 1989; Prasad et al., 1987). This is particularly intriguing since diacylglycerol is a precursor of both triacylglycerol and polar lipid. With castor microsomes, there is some evidence that the pool of ricinoleoyl-containing polar lipid is minimized by a preference of diacylglycerol acyltransferase for ricinoleate-containing diacylglycerols (Bafor et al., 1991). Analyses of vegetative tissues have generated few reports of unusual fatty acids, other than those occurring in the cuticle. The cuticle contains various hydroxylated fatty acids which are interesterified to produce a high molecular weight polyester which serves a structural role. A small number of other

exceptions exist in which unusual fatty acids are found in tissues other than the seed.

The biosynthesis of ricinoleic acid from oleic acid in the developing endosperm of castor (*Ricinus communis*) has been studied by a variety of methods. Morris (1967) established in double-labeling studies that hydroxylation occurs directly by hydroxyl substitution rather than via an unsaturated-, keto- or epoxy-intermediate. Hydroxylation using oleoyl-CoA as precursor can be demonstrated in crude preparations or microsomes, but activity in microsomes is unstable and variable, and isolation of the microsomes involved a considerable, or sometimes complete loss of activity (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf, 1981). Oleic acid can replace oleoyl-CoA as a precursor, but only in the presence of CoA, Mg^{2+} and ATP (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966) indicating that activation to the acyl-CoA is necessary. However, no radioactivity could be detected in ricinoleoyl-CoA (Moreau and Stumpf, 1981). These and more recent observations (Bafor et al., 1991) have been interpreted as evidence that the substrate for the castor oleate hydroxylase is oleic acid esterified to phosphatidylcholine or another phospholipid.

The hydroxylase is sensitive to cyanide and azide, and dialysis against metal chelators reduces activity, which could be restored by addition of $FeSO_4$, suggesting iron involvement in enzyme activity (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966). Ricinoleic acid synthesis requires molecular oxygen (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf 1981) and requires NAD(P)H to reduce cytochrome b5 which is thought to be the intermediate electron donor for the

hydroxylase reaction (Smith et al., 1992). Carbon monoxide does not inhibit hydroxylation, indicating that a cytochrome P450 is not involved (Galliard and Stumpf, 1966; Moreau and Stumpf 1981). Data from a study of the substrate specificity of the hydroxylase show that all substrate parameters (i.e., chain length and double bond position with respect to both ends) are important; deviations in these parameters caused reduced activity relative to oleic acid (Howling et al., 1972). The position at which the hydroxyl was introduced, however, was determined by the position of the double bond, always being three carbons distal. Thus, the castor acyl hydroxylase enzyme can produce a family of different hydroxylated fatty acids depending on the availability of substrates. Thus, as a matter of convenience, the enzyme is referred throughout this specification as a kappa hydroxylase (rather than an oleate hydroxylase) to indicate the broad substrate specificity.

The castor kappa hydroxylase has many superficial similarities to the microsomal fatty acyl desaturases (Browse and Somerville, 1991). In particular, plants have a microsomal oleate desaturase active at the Δ12 position. The substrate of this enzyme (Schmidt et al., 1993) and of the hydroxylase (Bafor et al., 1991) appears to be a fatty acid esterified to the *sn-2* position of phosphatidylcholine. When oleate is the substrate, the modification occurs at the same position (Δ12) in the carbon chain, and requires the same cofactors, namely electrons from NADH via cytochrome b_5 and molecular oxygen. Neither enzyme is inhibited

by carbon monoxide (Moreau and Stumpf, 1981), the characteristic inhibitor of cytochrome P450 enzymes.

There do not appear to have been any published biochemical studies of the properties of the hydroxylase enzyme(s) in *Lesquerella*.

Conceptual basis of the invention

The present inventors have described the use of a cDNA clone from castor for the production of ricinoleic acid in transgenic plants. As noted above, biochemical studies had suggested that the castor hydroxylase may not have strict specificity for oleic acid but would also catalyze hydroxylation of other fatty acids such as icosenoic acid ($20:1^{cis\Delta 11}$) (Howling et al., 1972). Based on these studies, expression of kappa hydroxylase in transgenic plants of species such as *Brassica napus* and *Arabidopsis thaliana* that accumulate fatty acids such as icosenoic acid ($20:1^{cis\Delta 11}$) and erucic acid (13-docosenoic acid; $22:1^{cis\Delta 13}$) may cause the accumulation of hydroxylated derivatives of these fatty acids due to the activity of the hydroxylase on these fatty acids. Direct evidence is presented in Example 1 that hydroxlyated derivatives of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic fatty acids are produced in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants.

Example 2 shows the isolation of a novel kappa hydroxylase gene from *Lesquerella fendleri*.

In view of the high degree of sequence similarity between Δ12 fatty acid desaturases and the castor hydroxylase (van de Loo et al., 1995), the validity of claims (e.g., PCT WO 94/11516) for using a limited set of desaturase or hydroxylase

genes or sequences derived therefrom to identify genes of identical function from other species must be viewed with skepticism. In this application, the present inventors teach a method by which hydroxylase genes can be distinguished from desaturases. The present inventors describe a mechanistic basis for the similar reaction mechanisms of desaturases and hydroxylases. Briefly, the available evidence suggests that fatty acid desaturases have a similar reaction mechanism to the bacterial enzyme methane monooxygenase which catalyses a reaction involving oxygen-atom transfer ($CH_4 \rightarrow CH_3OH$) (van de Loo et al., 1993). The cofactor in the hydroxylase component of methane monooxygenase is termed a μ-oxo bridged diiron cluster (FeOFe). The two iron atoms of the FeOFe cluster are liganded by protein-derived nitrogen or oxygen atoms, and are tightly redox-coupled by the covalently-bridging oxygen atom. The FeOFe cluster accepts two electrons, reducing it to the diferrous state, before oxygen binding. Upon oxygen binding, it is likely that heterolytic cleavage also occurs, leading to a high valent oxoiron reactive species that is stabilized by resonance rearrangements possible within the tightly coupled FeOFe cluster. The stabilized high-valent oxoiron state of methane monooxygenase is capable of proton extraction from methane, followed by oxygen transfer, giving methanol. The FeOFe cofactor has been shown to be directly relevant to plant fatty acid modifications by the demonstration that castor stearoyl-ACP desaturase contains this type of cofactor (Fox et al., 1993).

On the basis of the foregoing considerations, the present inventors suggest that the castor oleate hydroxylase might be a structurally modified fatty acyl desaturase, based upon three arguments. The first argument involves the taxonomic distribution of plants containing ricinoleic acid. Ricinoleic acid has been found in 12 genera of 10 families of higher plants (reviewed in van de Loo et al., 1993). Thus, plants in which ricinoleic acid occurs are found throughout the plant kingdom, yet close relatives of these plants do not contain the unusual fatty acid. This pattern suggests that the ability to synthesize ricinoleic acid has arisen (and been lost) several times independently, and is therefore has recently diverged. In other words, the ability to synthesize ricinoleic acid has evolved rapidly, suggesting that a relatively minor genetic change in the structure of the ancestral enzyme was necessary to accomplish it.

The second argument is that many biochemical properties of castor kappa hydroxylase are similar to those of the microsomal desaturases, as discussed above (e.g., both preferentially act on fatty acids esterified to the sn-2 position of phosphatidylcholine, both use cytochrome b5 as an intermediate electron donor, both are inhibited by cyanide, both require molecular oxygen as a substrate, both are thought to be located in the endoplasmic reticulum).

The third argument stems from the discussion of oxygenase cofactors above, in which it is suggested that the plant membrane bound fatty acid desaturases may have a μ-oxo bridged diiron cluster-type cofactor, and that such cofactors are capable

of catalyzing both fatty acid desaturations and hydroxylations, depending upon the electronic and structural properties of the protein active site.

Taking these three arguments together, the present inventors suggest that kappa hydroxylase of castor endosperm is homologous to the microsomal oleate Δ12 desaturase found in all plants. A number of genes encoding microsomal Δ12 desaturases from various species have recently been cloned (Okuley et al., 1994) and substantial information about the structure of these enzymes is now known (Shanklin et al., 1994). Hence, in the following invention, the present inventors teach how to use structural information to isolate and identify kappa hydroxylase genes. This example teaches the method by which any carbon-monoxide insensitive plant fatty acyl hydroxylase gene can be identified by one skilled in the art.

An unpredicted outcome of our studies on the castor hydroxylase gene in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants was the discovery that expression of the hydroxylase leads to increased accumulation of oleic acid in seed lipids. Because of the low nucleotide sequence homology between the castor hydroxylase and the Δ12-desaturase (about 67%), it is unlikely that this effect is due to silencing (also called sense-suppression or cosuppression) of the expression of the desaturase gene by the hydroxylase gene. Whatever the basis for the effect, this invention teaches the use of hydroxylase genes to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation in transgenic plants. This invention also teaches the use of genetically modified hydroxylase and desaturase

genes to achieve directed modification of fatty acid unsaturation levels.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A-D show the mass spectra of hydroxy fatty acids standards (Figure 1A, O-TMS-methylricinoleate; Figure 1B, O-TMS-methyl densipoleate; Figure 1C, O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate; and Figure 1D, O-TMS-methylauricoleate).

Figure 2 shows the fragmentation pattern of trimethylsilylated methyl esters of hydroxy fatty acids.

Figure 3A shows the gas chromatogram of fatty acids extracted from seeds of wild type *Arabidopsis* plants. Figure 3B shows the gas chromatogram of fatty acids extracted from seeds of transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants containing the fah12 hydroxylase gene. The numbers indicate the following fatty acids: [1] 16:0; [2] 18:0; [3] 18:1cisΔ9; [4] $18:2^{cis\Delta 9,12}$; [5] 20:0; [6] $20:1^{cis\Delta 11}$; [7] $18:3^{cis\Delta 9,12,15}$; [8] $20:2^{cis\Delta 11,14}$; [9] $22:1^{cis\Delta 13}$; [10] ricinoleic acid; [11] densipolic acid; [12] lesquerolic acid; and [13] auricolic acid.

Figures 4A-D show the mass spectra of novel fatty acids found in seeds of transgenic plants. Figure 4A shows the mass spectrum of peak 10 from Figure 3B. Figure 4B shows the mass spectrum of peak 11 from Figure 3B. Figure 4C shows the mass spectrum of peak 12 from Figure 3B. Figure 4D shows the mass spectrum of peak 13 from Figure 3B.

Figure 5 shows the nucleotide sequence of pLesq2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

Figure 6 shows the nucleotide sequence of pLesq3 (SEQ ID NO:2).

Figure 7 shows a Northern blot of total RNA from seeds of *L. fendleri* probed with pLesq2 or pLesq3. S, indicates RNA is from seeds; L, indicates RNA is from leaves.

Figures 8A-B show the nucleotide sequence of genomic clone encoding pLesq-HYD (SEQ ID NO:3), and the deduced amino acid sequence of hydroxylase enzyme encoded by the gene (SEQ ID NO:4).

Figures 9A-B show multiple sequence alignment of deduced amino acid sequences for kappa hydroxylases and microsomal Δ12 desaturases. Abbreviations are: Rcfah12, fah12 hydroxylase gene from *R. communis* (van de Loo et al., 1995); Lffah12, kappa hydroxylase gene from *L. fendleri*; Atfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Okuley et al., 1994); Gmfad2-1, fad2 desaturase from *Glycine max* (GenBank accession number L43920); Gmfad2-2, fad2 desaturase from *Glycine max* (Genbank accession number L43921); Zmfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Zea mays* (PCT WO 94/11516); Rcfad2, fragment of fad2 desaturase from *R. communis* (PCT WO 94/11516); Bnfad2, fad2 desaturase from *Brassica napus* (PCT WO 94/11516); LFFAH12.AMI, SEQ ID NO:4; FAH12.AMI, SEQ ID NO:5; ATFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:6; BNFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:7; GMFAD2-1.AMI, SEQ ID NO:8; GMFAD2-2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:9; ZMFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:10; and RCFAD2.AMI, SEQ ID NO:11.

Figure 10 shows a Southern blot of genomic DNA from *L. fendleri* probed with pLesq-HYD. E = *Eco*RI, H = *Hin*dIII, X = *Xba*I.

Figure 11 shows a map of binary Ti plasmid pSLJ44024.

Figure 12 shows a map of plasmid pYES2.0

Figure 13 shows part of a gas chromatogram of derivatized fatty acids from yeast cells that contain plasmid pLesqYes in which expression of the hydroxylase gene was induced by addition of galactose to the growth medium. The arrow points to a peak that is not present in uninduced cells. The lower part of the figure is the mass spectrum of the peak indicated by the arrow.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to plant fatty acyl hydroxylases. Methods to use conserved amino acid or nucleotide sequences to obtain plant fatty acyl hydroxylases are described. Also described is the use of cDNA clones encoding a plant hydroxylase to produce a family of hydroxylated fatty acids in transgenic plants.

In a first embodiment, this invention is directed to recombinant DNA constructs which can provide for the transcription, or transcription and translation (expression) of the plant kappa hydroxylase sequence. In particular, constructs which are capable of transcription, or transcription and translation in plant host cells are preferred. Such constructs may contain a variety of regulatory regions including transcriptional initiation regions obtained from genes preferentially expressed in plant seed tissue. In a second aspect, this invention relates to the presence of such constructs in host cells, especially plant host cells which have an expressed plant kappa hydroxylase therein.

In yet another aspect, this invention relates to a method for producing a plant kappa hydroxylase in a host cell or progeny thereof via the expression

of a construct in the cell. Cells containing a plant kappa hydroxylase as a result of the production of the plant kappa hydroxylase encoding sequence are also contemplated herein.

In another embodiment, this invention relates to methods of using a DNA sequence encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase for the modification of the proportion of hydroxylated fatty acids produced within a cell, especially plant cells. Plant cells having such a modified hydroxylated fatty acid composition are also contemplated herein.

In a further aspect of this invention, plant kappa hydroxylase proteins and sequences which are related thereto, including amino acid and nucleic acid sequences, are contemplated. Plant kappa hydroxylase exemplified herein includes a *Lesquerella fendleri* fatty acid hydroxylase. This exemplified fatty acid hydroxylase may be used to obtain other plant fatty acid hydroxylases of this invention.

In a further aspect of this invention, a nucleic acid sequence which directs the seed specific expression of an associated polypeptide coding sequence is described. The use of this nucleic acid sequence or fragments derived therefrom, to obtain seed-specific expression in higher plants of any coding sequence is contemplated herein.

In a further aspect of this invention, the use of genes encoding fatty acyl hydroxylases of this invention are used to alter the amount of fatty acid unsaturation of seed lipids. The present invention further discloses the use of genetically modified hydroxylase and desaturase genes to achieve

directed modification of fatty acid unsaturation levels.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

A genetically transformed plant of the present invention which accumulates hydroxylated fatty acids can be obtained by expressing the double-stranded DNA molecules described in this application.

A plant fatty acid hydroxylase of this invention includes any sequence of amino acids, such as a protein, polypeptide or peptide fragment, or nucleic acid sequences encoding such polypeptides, obtainable from a plant source which demonstrates the ability to catalyze the production of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, hydroxyerucic (16-hydroxydocos-*cis*-13-enoic acid) or hydroxypalmitoleic (12-hydroxyhexadec-*cis*-9-enoic) from CoA, ACP or lipid-linked monoenoic fatty acid substrates under plant enzyme reactive conditions. By "enzyme reactive conditions" is meant that any necessary conditions are available in an environment (i.e., such factors as temperature, pH, lack of inhibiting substances) which will permit the enzyme to function.

Preferential activity of a plant fatty acid hydroxylase toward a particular fatty acyl substrate is determined upon comparison of hydroxylated fatty acid product amounts obtained per different fatty acyl substrates. For example, by "oleate preferring" is meant that the hydroxylase activity of the enzyme preparation demonstrates a preference for oleate-containing substrates over other substrates. Although the precise substrate of the castor fatty

acid hydroxylase is not known, it is thought to be a monounsaturated fatty acid moiety which is esterified to a phospholipid such as phosphatidylcholine. However, it is also possible that monounsaturated fatty acids esterified to phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidic acid or a neutral lipid such as diacylglycerol or a Coenzyme-A thioester may also be substrates.

As noted above, significant activity has been observed in radioactive labelling studies using fatty acyl substrates other than oleate (Howling et al., 1972) indicating that the substrate specificity is for a family of related fatty acyl compounds. Because the castor hydroxylase introduces hydroxy groups three carbons from a double bond, proximal to the methyl carbon of the fatty acid, the enzyme is termed a kappa hydroxylase for convenience. Of particular interest, the present invention discloses that the castor kappa hydroxylase may be used for production of 12-hydroxy-9-octadecenoic acid (ricinoleate), 12-hydroxy-9-hexadecenoic acid, 14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid, 16-hydroxy-13-docosenoic acid, 9-hydroxy-6-octadecenoic acid by expression in plants species which produce the non-hydroxylated precursors. The present invention also discloses production of additionally modified fatty acids such as 12-hydroxy-9,15-octadecadienoic acid that result from desaturation of hydroxylated fatty acids (e.g., 12-hydroxy-9-octadecenoic acid in this example).

The present invention also discloses that future advances in the genetic engineering of plants will lead to production of substrate fatty acids, such as icosenoic acid esters, and palmitoleic acid esters in plants that do not normally accumulate

such fatty acids. The invention described herein may be used in conjunction with such future improvements to produce hydroxylated fatty acids of this invention in any plant species that is amenable to directed genetic modification. Thus, the applicability of this invention is not limited in our conception only to those species that currently accumulate suitable substrates.

As noted above, a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention will display activity towards various fatty acyl substrates. During biosynthesis of lipids in a plant cell, fatty acids are typically covalently bound to acyl carrier protein (ACP), coenzyme A (CoA) or various cellular lipids. Plant kappa hydroxylases which display preferential activity toward lipid-linked acyl substrate are especially preferred because they are likely to be closely associated with normal pathway of storage lipid synthesis in immature embryos. However, activity toward acyl-CoA substrates or other synthetic substrates, for example, is also contemplated herein.

Other plant kappa hydroxylases are obtainable from the specific exemplified sequences provided herein. Furthermore, it will be apparent that one can obtain natural and synthetic plant kappa hydroxylases including modified amino acid sequences and starting materials for synthetic-protein modeling from the exemplified plant kappa hydroxylase and from plant kappa hydroxylases which are obtained through the use of such exemplified sequences. Mcdified amino acid sequences include sequences which have been mutated, truncated, elongated or the like, whether such sequences were

partially or wholly synthesized. Sequences which are actually purified from plant preparations or are identical or encode identical proteins thereto, regardless of the method used to obtain the protein or sequence, are equally considered naturally derived.

Thus, one skilled in the art will readily recognize that antibody preparations, nucleic acid probes (DNA and RNA) or the like may be prepared and used to screen and recover "homologous" or "related" kappa hydroxylases from a variety of plant sources. Typically, nucleic acid probes are labeled to allow detection, preferably with radioactivity although enzymes or other methods may also be used. For immunological screening methods, antibody preparations either monoclonal or polyclonal are utilized. Polyclonal antibodies, although less specific, typically are more useful in gene isolation. For detection, the antibody is labeled using radioactivity or any one of a variety of second antibody/enzyme conjugate systems that are commercially available.

Homologous sequences are found when there is an identity of sequence and may be determined upon comparison of sequence information, nucleic acid or amino acid, or through hybridization reactions between a known kappa hydroxylase and a candidate source. Conservative changes, such as Glu/Asp, Val/Ile, Ser/Thr, Arg/Lys and Gln/Asn may also be considered in determining sequence homology. Typically, a lengthy nucleic acid sequence may show as little as 50-60% sequence identity, and more preferably at least about 70% sequence identity, between the target sequence and the given plant

kappa hydroxylase of interest excluding any deletions which may be present, and still be considered related. Amino acid sequences are considered homologous by as little as 25% sequence identity between the two complete mature proteins. (see generally, Doolittle, R.F., OF URFS and ORFS, University Science Books, CA, 1986.)

A genomic or other appropriate library prepared from the candidate plant source of interest may be probed with conserved sequences from the plant kappa hydroxylase to identify homologously related sequences. Use of an entire cDNA or other sequence may be employed if shorter probe sequences are not identified. Positive clones are then analyzed by restriction enzyme digestion and/or sequencing. When a genomic library is used, one or more sequences may be identified providing both the coding region, as well as the transcriptional regulatory elements of the kappa hydroxylase gene from such plant source. Probes can also be considerably shorter than the entire sequence. Oligonucleotides may be used, for example, but should be at least about 10, preferably at least about 15, more preferably at least 20 nucleotides in length. When shorter length regions are used for comparison, a higher degree of sequence identity is required than for longer sequences. Shorter probes are often particularly useful for polymerase chain reactions (PCR), especially when highly conserved sequences can be identified (see Gould et al., 1989 for examples of the use of PCR to isolate homologous genes from taxonomically diverse species).

When longer nucleic acid fragments are employed (>100 bp) as probes, especially when using

complete or large cDNA sequences, one would screen with low stringencies (for example, 40-50°C below the melting temperature of the probe) in order to obtain signal from the target sample with 20-50% deviation, i.e., homologous sequences (Beltz et al., 1983).

In a preferred embodiment, a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention will have at least 60% overall amino acid sequence similarity with the exemplified plant kappa hydroxylase. In particular, kappa hydroxylases which are obtainable from an amino acid or nucleic acid sequence of a castor or *Lesquerella* kappa hydroxylase are especially preferred. The plant kappa hydroxylases may have preferential activity toward longer or shorter chain fatty acyl substrates. Plant fatty acyl hydroxylases having oleate-12-hydroxylase activity and eicosenoate-14-hydroxylase activity are both considered homologously related proteins because of *in vitro* evidence (Howling et al., 1972), and evidence disclosed herein, that the castor kappa hydroxylase will act on both substrates. Hydroxylated fatty acids may be subject to further enzymatic modification by other enzymes which are normally present or are introduced by genetic engineering methods. For example, 14-hydroxy-11,17-eicosadienoic acid, which is present in some *Lesquerella* species (Smith, 1985), is thought to be produced by desaturation of 14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid.

Again, not only can gene clones and materials derived therefrom be used to identify homologous plant fatty acyl hydroxylases, but the resulting sequences obtained therefrom may also provide a

further method to obtain plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from other plant sources. In particular, PCR may be a useful technique to obtain related plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from sequence data provided herein. One skilled in the art will be able to design oligonucleotide probes based upon sequence comparisons or regions of typically highly conserved sequence. Of special interest are polymerase chain reaction primers based on the conserved regions of amino acid sequence between the castor kappa hydroxylase and the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase (SEQ ID NO:4). Details relating to the design and methods for a PCR reaction using these probes are described more fully in the examples.

It should also be noted that the fatty acyl hydroxylases of a variety of sources can be used to investigate fatty acid hydroxylation events in a wide variety of plant and *in vivo* applications. Because all plants synthesize fatty acids via a common metabolic pathway, the study and/or application of one plant fatty acid hydroxylase to a heterologous plant host may be readily achieved in a variety of species.

Once the nucleic acid sequence is obtained, the transcription, or transcription and translation (expression), of the plant fatty acyl hydroxylases in a host cell is desired to produce a ready source of the enzyme and/or modify the composition of fatty acids found therein in the form of free fatty acids, esters (particularly esterified to glycerolipids or as components of wax esters), estolides, or ethers. Other useful applications may be found when the host cell is a plant host cell, *in vitro* and *in vivo*. For example, by increasing the amount of an kappa

hydroxylase available to the plant, an increased percentage of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate (14-hydroxy-11-eicosenoic acid) may be provided.

Kappa Hydroxylase

By this invention, a mechanism for the biosynthesis of ricinoleic acid in plants is demonstrated. Namely, that a specific plant kappa hydroxylase having preferential activity toward fatty acyl substrates is involved in the accumulation of hydroxylated fatty acids in at least some plant species. The use of the terms ricinoleate or ricinoleic acid (or lesqueroleate or lesquerolic acid, densipoleate etc.) is intended to include the free acids, the ACP and CoA esters, the salts of these acids, the glycerolipid esters (particularly the triacylglycerol esters), the wax esters, the estolides and the ether derivatives of these acids.

The determination that plant fatty acyl hydroxylases are active in the *in vivo* production of hydroxylated fatty acids suggests several possibilities for plant enzyme sources. In fact, hydroxylated fatty acids are found in some natural plant species in abundance. For example, three hydroxy fatty acids related to ricinoleate occur in major amounts in seed oils from various *Lesquerella* species. Of particular interest, lesquerolic acid is a 20 carbon homolog of ricinoleate with two additional carbons at the carboxyl end of the chain (Smith, 1985). Other natural plant sources of hydroxylated fatty acids include but are not limited to seeds of the *Linum* genus, seeds of *Wrightia* species, *Lycopodium* species, *Strophanthus* species,

Convolvulaces species, *Calendula* species and many others (van de Loo et al., 1993).

Plants having significant presence of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate or desaturated other or modified derivatives of these fatty acids are preferred candidates to obtain naturally-derived kappa hydroxylases. For example, *Lesquerella densipila* contains a diunsaturated 18 carbon fatty acid with a hydroxyl group (van de Loo et al., 1993) that is thought to be produced by an enzyme that is closely related to the castor kappa hydroxylase, according to the theory on which this invention is based. In addition, a comparison between kappa hydroxylases and between plant fatty acyl hydroxylases which introduce hydroxyl groups at positions other than the 12-carbon of oleate or the 14-carbon of lesqueroleate or on substrates other than oleic acid and icosenoic acid may yield insights for gene identification, protein modeling or other modifications as discussed above.

Especially of interest are fatty acyl hydroxylases which demonstrate activity toward fatty acyl substrates other than oleate, or which introduce the hydroxyl group at a location other than the C12 carbon. As described above, other plant sources may also provide sources for these enzymes through the use of protein purification, nucleic acid probes, antibody preparations, protein modeling, or sequence comparisons, for example, and of special interest are the respective amino acid and nucleic acid sequences corresponding to such plant fatty acyl hydroxylases. Also, as previously described, once a nucleic acid sequence is obtained for the given plant hydroxylase, further plant

sequences may be compared and/or probed to obtain homologously related DNA sequences thereto and so on.

Genetic Engineering Applications

As is well known in the art, once a cDNA clone encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase is obtained, it may be used to obtain its corresponding genomic nucleic acid sequences thereto.

The nucleic acid sequences which encode plant kappa hydroxylases may be used in various constructs, for example, as probes to obtain further sequences from the same or other species. Alternatively, these sequences may be used in conjunction with appropriate regulatory sequences to increase levels of the respective hydroxylase of interest in a host cell for the production of hydroxylated fatty acids or study of the enzyme *in vitro* or *in vivo* or to decrease or increase levels of the respective hydroxylase of interest for some applications when the host cell is a plant entity, including plant cells, plant parts (including but not limited to seeds, cuttings or tissues) and plants.

A nucleic acid sequence encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention may include genomic, cDNA or mRNA sequence. By "encoding" is meant that the sequence corresponds to a particular amino acid sequence either in a sense or anti-sense orientation. By "recombinant" is meant that the sequence contains a genetically engineered modification through manipulation via mutagenesis, restriction enzymes, or the like. A cDNA sequence may or may not encode pre-processing sequences, such

as transit or signal peptide sequences. Transit or signal peptide sequences facilitate the delivery of the protein to a given organelle and are frequently cleaved from the polypeptide upon entry into the organelle, releasing the "mature" sequence. The use of the precursor DNA sequence is preferred in plant cell expression cassettes.

Furthermore, as discussed above the complete genomic sequence of the plant kappa hydroxylase may be obtained by the screening of a genomic library with a probe, such as a cDNA probe, and isolating those sequences which regulate expression in seed tissue.

Once the desired plant kappa hydroxylase nucleic acid sequence is obtained, it may be manipulated in a variety of ways. Where the sequence involves non-coding flanking regions, the flanking regions may be subjected to resection, mutagenesis, etc. Thus, transitions, transversions, deletions, and insertions may be performed on the naturally occurring sequence. In addition, all or part of the sequence may be synthesized. In the structural gene, one or more codons may be modified to provide for a modified amino acid sequence, or one or more codon mutations may be introduced to provide for a convenient restriction site or other purpose involved with construction or expression. The structural gene may be further modified by employing synthetic adapters, linkers to introduce one or more convenient restriction sites, or the like.

The nucleic acid or amino acid sequences encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention may be combined with other non-native, or "heterologous", sequences in a variety of ways. By

"heterologous" sequences is meant any sequence which is not naturally found joined to the plant kappa hydroxylase, including, for example, combination of nucleic acid sequences from the same plant which are not naturally found joined together.

The DNA sequence encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase of this invention may be employed in conjunction with all or part of the gene sequences normally associated with the kappa hydroxylase. In its component parts, a DNA sequence encoding kappa hydroxylase is combined in a DNA construct having, in the 5' to 3' direction of transcription, a transcription initiation control region capable of promoting transcription and/or translation in a host cell, the DNA sequence encoding plant kappa hydroxylase and a transcription and/or translation termination region.

Potential host cells include both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. A host cell may be unicellular or found in a multicellular differentiated or undifferentiated organism depending upon the intended use. Cells of this invention may be distinguished by having a plant kappa hydroxylase foreign to the wild-type cell present therein, for example, by having a recombinant nucleic acid construct encoding a plant kappa hydroxylase therein.

Depending upon the host, the regulatory regions will vary, including regions from viral, plasmid or chromosomal genes, or the like. For expression in prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganisms, particularly unicellular hosts, a wide variety of constitutive or regulatable promoters may be employed. Expression in a

microorganism can provide a ready source of the plant enzyme. Among transcriptional initiation regions which have been described are regions from bacterial and yeast hosts, such as *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, including genes such as beta-galactosidase, T7 polymerase, trpE or the like.

For the most part, the constructs will involve regulatory regions functional in plants which provide for modified production of plant kappa hydroxylase with resulting modification of the fatty acid composition. The open reading frame, coding for the plant kappa hydroxylase or functional fragment thereof will be joined at its 5' end to a transcription initiation regulatory region. Numerous transcription initiation regions are available which provide for a wide variety of constitutive or regulatable, e.g., inducible, transcription of the structural gene functions.

Among transcriptional initiation regions used for plants are such regions associated with the structural genes such as for nopaline and mannopine synthases, or with napin, soybean β-conglycinin, oleosin, 12S storage protein, the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoters or the like. The transcription/ translation initiation regions corresponding to such structural genes are found immediately 5' upstream to the respective start codons.

In embodiments wherein the expression of the kappa hydroxylase protein is desired in a plant host, the use of all or part of the complete plant kappa hydroxylase gene is desired. If a different promoter is desired, such as a promoter native to the plant host of interest or a modified promoter,

i.e., having transcription initiation regions derived from one gene source and translation initiation regions derived from a different gene source or enhanced promoters, such as double 35S CaMV promoters, the sequences may be joined together using standard techniques.

For such applications when 5' upstream non-coding regions are obtained from other genes regulated during seed maturation, those preferentially expressed in plant embryo tissue, such as transcription initiation control regions from the *B. napus* napin gene, or the *Arabidopsis* 12S storage protein, or soybean β-conglycinin (Bray et al., 1987) are desired. Transcription initiation regions which are preferentially expressed in seed tissue, i.e., which are undetectable in other plant parts, are considered desirable for fatty acid modifications in order to minimize any disruptive or adverse effects of the gene product.

Regulatory transcript termination regions may be provided in DNA constructs of this invention as well. Transcript termination regions may be provided by the DNA sequence encoding the plant kappa hydroxylase or a convenient transcription termination region derived from a different gene source, for example, the transcript termination region which is naturally associated with the transcript initiation region. Where the transcript termination region is from a different gene source, it will contain at least about 0.5 kb, preferably about 1-3 kb of sequence 3' to the structural gene from which the termination region is derived.

Plant expression or transcription constructs having a plant kappa hydroxylase as the DNA sequence

of interest for increased or decreased expression thereof may be employed with a wide variety of plant life, particularly, plant life involved in the production of vegetable oils for edible and industrial uses. Most especially preferred are temperate oilseed crops. Plants of interest include, but are not limited to rapeseed (canola and high erucic acid varieties), *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, *Brassica nigra*, meadowfoam, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, *Cuphea*, soybean, peanut, coconut and oil palms and corn. An important criterion in the selection of suitable plants for the introduction on the kappa hydroxylase is the presence in the host plant of a suitable substrate for the hydroxylase. Thus, for example, production of ricinoleic acid will be best accomplished in plants that normally have high levels of oleic acid in seed lipids. Similarly, production of lesquerolic acid will best be accomplished in plants that have high levels of icosenoic acid in seed lipids.

Depending on the method for introducing the recombinant constructs into the host cell, other DNA sequences may be required. Importantly, this invention is applicable to dicotyledons and monocotyledons species alike and will be readily applicable to new and/or improved transformation and regulation techniques. The method of transformation is not critical to the current invention; various methods of plant transformation are currently available. As newer methods are available to transform crops, they may be directly applied hereunder. For example, many plant species naturally susceptible to *Agrobacterium* infection may be successfully transformed via tripartite or binary

vector methods of *Agrobacterium* mediated transformation. In addition, techniques of microinjection, DNA particle bombardment, electroporation have been developed which allow for the transformation of various monocot and dicot plant species.

In developing the DNA construct, the various components of the construct or fragments thereof will normally be inserted into a convenient cloning vector which is capable of replication in a bacterial host, e.g., *E. coli*. Numerous vectors exist that have been described in the literature. After each cloning, the plasmid may be isolated and subjected to further manipulation, such as restriction, insertion of new fragments, ligation, deletion, insertion, resection, etc., so as to tailor the components of the desired sequence. Once the construct has been completed, it may then be transferred to an appropriate vector for further manipulation in accordance with the manner of transformation of the host cell.

Normally, included with the DNA construct will be a structural gene having the necessary regulatory regions for expression in a host and providing for selection of transformant cells. The gene may provide for resistance to a cytotoxic agent, e.g., antibiotic, heavy metal, toxin, etc., complementation providing prototropy to an auxotrophic host, viral immunity or the like. Depending upon the number of different host species the expression construct or components thereof are introduced, one or more markers may be employed, where different conditions for selection are used for the different hosts.

It is noted that the degeneracy of the DNA code provides that some codon substitutions are permissible of DNA sequences without any corresponding modification of the amino acid sequence.

As mentioned above, the manner in which the DNA construct is introduced into the plant host is not critical to this invention. Any method which provides for efficient transformation may be employed. Various methods for plant cell transformation include the use of Ti- or Ri-plasmids, microinjection, electroporation, infiltration, imbibition, DNA particle bombardment, liposome fusion, DNA bombardment or the like. In many instances, it will be desirable to have the construct bordered on one or both sides of the T-DNA, particularly having the left and right borders, more particularly the right border. This is particularly useful when the construct uses *A. tumefaciens* or *A. rhizogenes* as a mode for transformation, although the T-DNA borders may find use with other modes of transformation.

Where *Agrobacterium* is used for plant cell transformation, a vector may be used which may be introduced into the *Agrobacterium* host for homologous recombination with T-DNA or the Ti- or Ri-plasmid present in the *Agrobacterium* host. The Ti- or Ri-plasmid containing the T-DNA for recombination may be armed (capable of causing gall formation) or disarmed (incapable of causing gall), the latter being permissible, so long as the *vir* genes are present in the transformed *Agrobacterium* host. The armed plasmid can give a mixture of normal plant cells and gall.

In some instances where *Agrobacterium* is used as the vehicle for transforming plant cells, the expression construct bordered by the T-DNA border(s) will be inserted into a broad host spectrum vector, there being broad host spectrum vectors described in the literature. Commonly used is pRK2 or derivatives thereof. See, for example, Ditta et al. (1980), which is incorporated herein by reference. Included with the expression construct and the T-DNA will be one or more markers, which allow for selection of transformed *Agrobacterium* and transformed plant cells. A number of markers have been developed for use with plant cells, such as resistance to kanamycin, the aminoglycoside G418, hygromycin, or the like. The particular marker employed is not essential to this invention, one or another marker being preferred depending on the particular host and the manner of construction.

For transformation of plant cells using *Agrobacterium*, explants may be combined and incubated with the transformed *Agrobacterium* for sufficient time for transformation, the bacteria killed, and the plant cells cultured in an appropriate selective medium. Once callus forms, shoot formation can be encouraged by employing the appropriate plant hormones in accordance with known methods and the shoots transferred to rooting medium for regeneration of plants. The plants may then be grown to seed and the seed used to establish repetitive generations and for isolation of vegetable oils.

Using Hydroxylase Genes to Alter the Activity of Fatty Acid Desaturases

A widely acknowledged goal of current efforts to improve the nutritional quality of edible plant oils, or to facilitate industrial applications of plant oils, is to alter the level of desaturation of plant storage lipids (Topfer et al., 1995). In particular, in many crop species it is considered desirable to reduce the level of polyunsaturation of storage lipids and to increase the level of oleic acid. The precise amount of the various fatty acids in a particular plant oil varies with the intended application. Thus, it is desirable to have a robust method that will permit genetic manipulation of the level of unsaturation to any desired level.

Substantial progress has recently been made in the isolation of genes encoding plant fatty acid desaturases (reviewed in Topfer et al., 1995). These genes have been introduced into various plant species and used to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation in one of three ways. First, the genes can be placed under transcriptional control of a strong promoter so that the amount of the corresponding enzyme is increased. In some cases this leads to an increase in the amount of the fatty acid that is the product of the reaction catalyzed by the enzyme. For example, Arondel et al. (1992) increased the amount of linolenic acid (18:3) in tissues of transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants by placing the endoplasmic reticulum-localized fad3 gene under transcriptional control of the strong constitutive cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.

A second method of using cloned genes to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation is to

cause transcription of all or part of a gene in transgenic tissues so that the transcripts have an antisense orientation relative to the normal mode of transcription. This has been used by a number of laboratories to reduce the level of expression of one or more desaturase genes that have significant nucleotide sequence homology to the gene used in the construction of the antisense gene (reviewed in Topfer et al.). For instance, antisense repression of the oleate Δ12-desaturase in transgenic rapeseed resulted in a strong increase in oleic acid content (cf., Topfer et al., 1995).

A third method for using cloned genes to alter fatty acid desaturation is to exploit the phenomenon of cosuppression or "gene-silencing" (Matzke et al., 1995). Although the mechanisms responsible for gene silencing are not known in any detail, it has frequently been observed that in transgenic plants, expression of an introduced gene leads to inactivation of homologous endogenous genes.

For example, high-level sense expression of the *Arabidopsis* fad8 gene, which encodes a chloroplast-localized Δ15-desaturase, in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants caused suppression of the endogenous copy of the fad8 gene and the homologous fad7 gene (which encodes an isozyme of the fad8 gene) (Gibson et al., 1994). The fad7 and fad8 genes are only 76% identical at the nucleotide level. At the time of publication, this example represented the most divergent pair of plant genes for which cosuppression had been observed.

In view of previous evidence concerning the relatively high level of nucleotide sequence

homology required to obtain cosuppression, it is not obvious to one skilled in the art that sense expression in transgenic plants of the castor fatty acyl hydroxylase of this invention would significantly alter the amount of unsaturation of storage lipids.

However, the present inventors establish that fatty acyl hydroxylase genes can be used for this purpose as taught in Example 4 of this specification. Of particular importance, this invention teaches the use of fatty acyl hydroxylase genes to increase the proportion of oleic acid in transgenic plant tissues. The mechanism by which expression of the gene exerts this effect is not known but may be due to one of several possibilities which are elaborated upon in Example 4.

The invention now being generally described, it will be more readily understood by reference to the following examples which are included for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the present invention.

EXAMPLES

In the experimental disclosure which follows, all temperatures are given in degrees centigrade (°C), weights are given in grams (g), milligram (mg) or micrograms (μg), concentrations are given as molar (M), millimolar (mM) or micromolar (μM) and all volumes are given in liters (l), microliters (μl) or milliliters (ml), unless otherwise indicated.

EXAMPLE 1 - PRODUCTION OF NOVEL HYDROXYLATED FATTY ACIDS IN *ARABIDOPSIS THALIANA*

Overview

The kappa hydroxylase encoded by the fah12 gene from castor was used to produce ricinoleic acid, lesquerolic acid, densipolic acid and auricolic acid in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants.

Production of transgenic plants

A variety of methods have been developed to insert a DNA sequence of interest into the genome of a plant host to obtain the transcription and translation of the sequence to effect phenotypic changes. The following methods represent only one of many equivalent means of producing transgenic plants and causing expression of the hydroxylase gene.

Arabidopsis plants were transformed, by *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, with the kappa hydroxylase encoded by the castor fah12 gene on binary Ti plasmid pB6. This plasmid has also been used to transform *Nicotiana tabacum* for the production of ricinoleic acid.

Inoculums of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strain GV3101 containing binary Ti plasmid pB6 were plated on L-broth plates containing 50 μg/ml kanamycin and incubated for 2 days at 30°C. Single colonies were used to inoculate large liquid cultures (L-broth medium with 50 mg/l rifampicin, 110 mg/l gentamycin and 200 mg/l kanamycin) to be used for the transformation of *Arabidopsis* plants.

Arabidopsis plants were transformed by the *in planta* transformation procedure essentially as described by Bechtold et al. (1993). Cells of *A. tumefaciens* GV3101(pB6) were harvested from liquid

cultures by centrifugation, then resuspended in infiltration medium at OD_{600} = 0.8. Infiltration medium was Murashige and Skoog macro and micronutrient medium (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) containing 10 mg/l 6-benzylaminopurine and 5% glucose. Batches of 12-15 plants were grown for 3 to 4 weeks in natural light at a mean daily temperature of approximately 25°C in 3.5 inch pots containing soil. The intact plants were immersed in the bacterial suspension then transferred to a vacuum chamber and placed under 600 mm of vacuum produced by a laboratory vacuum pump until tissues appeared uniformly water-soaked (approximately 10 min). The plants were grown at 25°C under continuous light (100 μmol m^{-2} s^{-1} irradiation in the 400 to 700 nm range) for four weeks. The seeds obtained from all the plants in a pot were harvested as one batch. The seeds were sterilized by sequential treatment for 2 min with ethanol followed by 10 min in a mixture of household bleach (Chlorox), water and Tween-80 (50%, 50%, 0.05%) then rinsed thoroughly with sterile water. The seeds were plated at high density (2000 to 4000 per plate) onto agar-solidified medium in 100 mm petri plates containing 1/2 X Murashige and Skoog salts medium enriched with B5 vitamins (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) and containing kanamycin at 50 mg/l. After incubation for 48 h at 4°C to stimulate germination, seedlings were grown for a period of seven days until transformants were clearly identifiable as healthy green seedlings against a background of chlorotic kanamycin-sensitive seedlings. The transformants were transferred to soil for two weeks before leaf tissue

could be used for DNA and lipid analysis. More than 20 transformants were obtained.

DNA was extracted from young leaves from transformants to verify the presence of an intact fah12 gene. The presence of the transgene in a number of the putative transgenic lines was verified by using the polymerase chain reaction to amplify the insert from pB6. The primers used were HF2 = GCTCTTTTGTGCGCTCATTC (SEQ ID NO:12) and HR1 = CGGTACCAGAAAACGCCTTG (SEQ ID NO:13), which were designed to allow the amplification of a 700 bp fragment. Approximately 100 ng of genomic DNA was added to a solution containing 25 pmol of each primer, 1.5 U Taq polymerase (Boehringer Manheim), 200 uM of dNTPs, 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris.Cl (pH 9), 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 1.5 mM $MgCl_2$, 3% (v/v) formamide, to a final volume of 50 μl. Amplifications conditions were: 4 min denaturation step at 94°C, followed by 30 cycles of 92°C for 1 min, 55°C for 1 min, 72°C for 2 min. A final extension step closed the program at 72°C for 5 min. Transformants could be positively identified after visualization of a characteristic 1 kb amplified fragment on an ethidium bromide stained agarose gel. All transgenic lines tested gave a PCR product of a size consistent with the expected genotype, confirming that the lines were, indeed, transgenic. All further experiments were done with three representative transgenic lines of the wild type designated as 1-3, 4D, 7-4 and one transgenic line of the fad2 mutant line JB12. The transgenic JB12 line was included in order to test whether the increased accumulation of oleic acid in this mutant

would have an effect on the amount of ricinoleic acid that accumulated in the transgenic plants.

Analysis of transgenic plants

Leaves and seeds from fah12 transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants were analyzed for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids using gas chromatography. Lipids were extracted from 100-200 mg leaf tissue or 50 seeds. Fatty acid methyl esters (FAMES) were prepared by placing tissue in 1.5 ml of 1.0 M methanolic HCl (Supelco Co.) in a 13 x 100 mm glass screw-cap tube capped with a teflon-lined cap and heated to 80°C for 2 hours. Upon cooling, 1 ml petroleum ether was added and the FAMES removed by aspirating off the ether phase which was then dried under a nitrogen stream in a glass tube. One hundred μl of N,O-bis(Trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA; Pierce Chemical Co) and 200 μl acetonitrile was added to derivatize the hydroxyl groups. The reaction was carried out at 70°C for 15 min. The products were dried under nitrogen, redissolved in 100 μl chloroform and transferred to a gas chromatograph vial. Two μl of each sample were analyzed on a SP2340 fused silica capillary column (30 m, 0.75 mm ID, 0.20 mm film, Supelco), using a Hewlett-Packard 5890 II series Gas Chromatograph. The samples were not split, the temperature program was 195°C for 18 min, increased to 230°C at 25°C/min, held at 230°C for 5 min then down to 195°C at 25°C/min., and flame ionization detectors were used.

The chromatographic elution time of methyl esters and O-TMS derivatives of ricinoleic acid, lesquerolic acid and auricolic acid was established

by GC-MS of lipid samples from seeds of *L. fendleri* and comparison to published chromatograms of fatty acids from this species (Carlson et al., 1990). A O-TMS-methyl-ricinoleate standard was prepared from ricinoleic acid obtained from Sigma Chemical Co (St, Louis, MO). O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate and O-TMS-methyl-auricoleate standards were prepared from triacylglycerols purified from seeds of *L. fendleri*. The mass spectrum of O-TMS-methyl-ricinoleate, O-TMS-methyl-densipoleate, O-TMS-methyl-lesqueroleate, and O-TMS-methyl-auricoleate are shown in Figures 1A-D, respectively. The structures of the characteristic ions produced during mass spectrometry of these derivatives are shown in Figure 2.

Lipid extracted from transgenic tissues were analyzed by gas chromatography and mass spectrometry for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids. As a matter of reference, the average fatty acid composition of leaves in *Arabidopsis* wild type and fad2 mutant lines was reported by Miquel and Browse (1992). Gas chromatograms of methylated and silylated fatty acids from seeds of wild type and a fah12 transgenic wild type plant are shown in Figures 3A and 3B, respectively. The profiles are very similar except for the presence of three small but distinct peaks at 14.3, 15.9 and 18.9 minutes. A very small peak at 20.15 min was also evident. The elution time of the peaks at 14.3 and 18.9 min corresponded precisely to that of comparably prepared ricinoleic and lesquerolic standards, respectively. No significant differences were observed in lipid extracts from leaves or roots of

the wild type and the fah12 transgenic wild type lines (Table 1).

Thus, in spite of the fact that the fah12 gene is expressed throughout the plant, effects on fatty acid composition was observed only in seed tissue. The present inventors have made a similar observation for transgenic fah12 tobacco.

Table 1. Fatty acid composition of lipids from transgenic and wild type *Arabidopsis*. The values are the means obtained from analysis of samples from three independent transgenic lines, or three independent samples of wild type and fad2 lines.

TABLE 1

Fatty acid	Seed				Leaf		Root	
	WT	FAH12 WT	FAH12 fad2	JB12	WT	FAH12 WT	WT	FAH12 WT
16:0	8.5	8.2	6.4	6.1	16.5	17.5	23.9	24.9
16:3	0	0	0	0	10.1	9.8	0	0
18:0	3.2	3.5	2.9	3.5	1.3	1.2	2.0	1.9
18:1	15.4	26.3	43.4	47.8	2.4	3.4	5.4	3.2
18:2	27.0	21.4	10.2	7.2	15.1	14.0	32.2	29.4
18:3	22.0	16.6	-	9.7	36.7	36.0	26.7	30.6
20:1	14.0	14.3	-	13.1	0	0	0	0

TABLE 1 (continued)

Fatty acid	Seed				Leaf		Root	
	WT	FAH12 WT	FAH12 fad2	JB12	WT	FAH12 WT	WT	FAH12 WT
18:1-OH	0	0.4	0.3	0	0	0	0	0
18:2-OH	0	0.4	0.3	0	0	0	0	0
20:1-OH	0	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
20:2-OH	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0

In order to confirm that the observed new peaks in the transgenic lines corresponded to derivatives of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic acids, mass spectrometry was used. The fatty acid derivatives were resolved by gas chromatography as described above except that a Hewlett-Packard 5971 series mass selective detector was used in place of the flame ionization detector used in the previous experiment. The spectra of the four new peaks in Figure 3B (peak numbers 10, 11, 12 and 13) are shown in Figures 4A-D, respectively. Comparison of the spectrum obtained for the standards with that obtained for the four peaks from the transgenic lines confirms the identity of the four new peaks. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 187, 270 and 299, peak 10 is unambiguously identified as O-TMS-methylricinoleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 185, 270 and 299, peak 11 is unambiguously identified as O-TMS-methyldensipoleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 187, 298 and 327, peak 12 is unambiguously identified as O-TMS-methyllesqueroleate. On the basis of the three characteristic peaks at M/Z 185, 298 and 327, peak 13 is unambiguously identified as O-TMS-methylauricoleate.

These results unequivocally demonstrate the identity of the fah12 cDNA as encoding a hydroxylase that hydroxylates both oleic acid to produce ricinoleic acid and also hydroxylates icosenoic acid to produce lesquerolic acid. These results also provide additional evidence that the hydroxylase can be functionally expressed in a heterologous plant

species in such a way that the enzyme is catalytically functional. These results also demonstrate that expression of this hydroxylase gene leads to accumulation of ricinoleic, lesquerolic, densipolic and auricolic acids in a plant species that does not normally accumulate hydroxylated fatty acids in extractable lipids.

The present inventors expected to find lesquerolic acid in the transgenic plants based on the biochemical evidence suggesting broad substrate specificity of the kappa hydroxylase. By contrast, the accumulation of densipolic and auricolic acids was less predictable. Since *Arabidopsis* does not normally contain significant quantities of the non-hydroxylated precursors of these fatty acids which could serve as substrates for the hydroxylase, it appears that one or more of the three n-3 fatty acid desaturases known in *Arabidopsis* (e.g., fad3, fad7, fad8; reviewed in Gibson et al., 1995) are capable of desaturating the hydroxylated compounds at the n-3 position. That is, densipolic acid is produced by the action of an n-3 desaturase on ricinoleic acid. Auricolic acid is produced by the action of an n-3 desaturase on lesquerolic acid. Because it is located in the endoplasmic reticulum, the fad3 desaturase is almost certainly responsible. This can be tested in the future by producing fah12-containing transgenic plants of the fad3-deficient mutant of *Arabidopsis* (similar experiments can be done with fad7 and fad8). It is also formally possible that the enzymes that normally elongate $18:1^{cis\Delta 9}$ to $20:1^{cis\Delta 11}$ may elongate $12OH\text{-}18:1^{cis\Delta 9}$ to $14OH\text{-}20:1^{cis\Delta 11}$, and $12OH\text{-}18:2^{cis\Delta 9,15}$ to $14OH\text{-}20:2^{cis\Delta 11,17}$.

The amount of the various fatty acids in seed, leaf and root lipids of the control and transgenic plants is also presented in Table 1. Although the amount of hydroxylated fatty acids produced in this example is less than desired for production of ricinoleate and other hydroxylated fatty acids from plants, numerous improvements may be envisioned that will increase the level of accumulation of hydroxylated fatty acids in plants that express the fah12 or related hydroxylase genes. Improvements in the level and tissue specificity of expression of the hydroxylase gene are envisioned. Methods to accomplish this by the use of strong, seed-specific promoters such as the *B. napus* napin promoter will be obvious to one skilled in the art. Additional improvements are envisioned that involve modification of the enzymes which cleave hydroxylated fatty acids from phosphatidylcholine, reduction in the activities of enzymes which degrade hydroxylated fatty acids and replacement of acyltransferases which transfer hydroxylated fatty acids to the sn-1, sn-2 and sn-3 positions of glycerolipids. Although genes for these enzymes have not been described in the scientific literature, their utility in improving the level of production of hydroxylated fatty acids can be readily appreciated based on the results of biochemical investigations of ricinoleate synthesis.

Although *Arabidopsis* is not an economically important plant species, it is widely accepted by plant biologists as a model for higher plants. Therefore, the inclusion of this example is intended to demonstrate the general utility of the invention described here to the modification of oil

composition in higher plants. One advantage of studying the expression of this novel gene in *Arabidopsis* is the existence in this system of a large body of knowledge on lipid metabolism, as well as the availability of a collection of mutants which can be used to provide useful information on the biochemistry of fatty acid hydroxylation in plant species. Another advantage is the ease of transposing any of the information obtained on metabolism of ricinoleate in *Arabidopsis* to closely related species such as the crop plants *Brassica napus, Brassica juncea* or *Crambe abyssinica* in order to mass produce ricinoleate, lesqueroleate or other hydroxylated fatty acids for industrial use. The kappa hydroxylase is useful for the production of ricinoleate or lesqueroleate in any plant species that accumulates significant levels of the precursors, oleic acid and icosenoic acid. Of particular interest are genetically modified varieties that accumulate high levels of oleic acid. Such varieties are currently available for sunflower and canola. Production of lesquerolic acid and related hydroxy fatty acids can be achieved in species that accumulate high levels of icosenoic acid or other long chain monoenoic acids. Such plants may in the future be produced by genetic engineering of plants that do not normally make such precursors. Thus, the use of the kappa hydroxylase will be of general utility.

EXAMPLE 2. ISOLATION OF *LESQUERELLA* KAPPA HYDROXYLASE GENOMIC CLONE

Overview

Regions of nucleotide sequence that were conserved in both the castor kappa hydroxylase and the *Arabidopsis* fad2 Δ12 fatty acid desaturase were used to design oligonucleotide primers. These were used with genomic DNA from *Lesquerella fendleri* to amplify fragments of several homologous genes. These amplified fragments were then used as hybridization probes to identify full length genomic clones from a genomic library of *L. fendleri*.

Hydroxylated fatty acids are specific to the seed tissue of *Lesquerella* sp., and are not found to any appreciable extent in vegetative tissues. One of the two genes identified by this method was expressed in both leaves and developing seeds and is therefore thought to correspond to the Δ12 fatty acid desaturase. The other gene was expressed at high levels in developing seeds but was not expressed or was expressed at very low levels in leaves and is the kappa hydroxylase from this species. The identity of the gene as a fatty acyl hydroxylase was established by functional expression of the gene in yeast.

The identity of this gene will also be established by introducing the gene into transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants and showing that it causes the accumulation of ricinoleic acid, lesquerolic acid, densipolic acid and auricolic acid in seed lipids.

The various steps involved in this process are described in detail below. Unless otherwise indicated, routine methods for manipulating nucleic

acids, bacteria and phage were as described by Sambrook et al. (1989).

Isolation of a fragment of the *Lesquerella* kappa hydroxylase gene

Oligonucleotide primers for the amplification of the *L. fendleri* kappa hydroxylase were designed by choosing regions of high deduced amino acid sequence homology between the castor kappa hydroxylase and the *Arabidopsis* Δ12 desaturase (fad2). Because most amino acids are encoded by several different codons, these oligonucleotides were designed to encode all possible codons that could encode the corresponding amino acids.

The sequence of these mixed oligonucleotides was Oligo 1: TAYWSNCAYMGNMGNCAYCA (SEQ ID NO:14) and Oligo 2: RTGRTGNGCNACRTGNGTRTC (SEQ ID NO:15) where Y = C+T, W = A+T, S = G+C, N = A+G+C+T, M = A+C, and R = A+G.

These oligonucleotides were used to amplify a fragment of DNA from *L. fendleri* genomic DNA by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following conditions: Approximately 100 ng of genomic DNA was added to a solution containing 25 pmol of each primer, 1.5 U Taq polymerase (Boehringer Manheim), 200 uM of dNTPs, 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris.Cl (pH 9), 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 1.5 mM $MgCl_2$, 3% (v/v) formamide, to a final volume of 50 μl. Amplifications conditions were: 4 min denaturation step at 94°C, followed by 30 cycles of 92°C for 1 min, 55°C for 1 min, 72°C for 2 min. A final extension step closed the program at 72°C for 5 min.

PCR products of approximately 540 bp were observed following electrophoretic separation of the

products of the PCR reaction in agarose gels. Two of these fragments were cloned into pBluescript (Stratagene) to give rise to plasmids pLesq2 and pLesq3. The sequence of the inserts in these two plasmids was determined by the chain termination method. The sequence of the insert in pLesq2 is presented as Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:1) and the sequence of the insert in pLesq3 is presented as Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:2). The high degree of sequence identity between the two clones indicated that they were both potential candidates to be either a Δ12 desaturase or a kappa hydroxylase.

Northern analysis

In *L. fendleri*, hydroxylated fatty acids are found in large amounts in seed oils but are not found in appreciable amounts in leaves. An important criterion in discriminating between a fatty acyl desaturase and kappa hydroxylase is that the kappa hydroxylase gene is expected to be expressed more highly in tissues which have high level of hydroxylated fatty acids than in other tissues. In contrast, all plant tissues should contain mRNA for an ω6 fatty acyl desaturase since diunsaturated fatty acids are found in the lipids of all tissues in most or all plants.

Therefore, it was of great interest to determine whether the gene corresponding to pLesq2 was also expressed only in seeds, or is also expressed in other tissues. This question was addressed by testing for hybridization of pLesq2 to RNA purified from developing seeds and from leaves.

Total RNA was purified from developing seeds and young leaves of *L. fendleri* using an Rneasy RNA

extraction kit (Qiagen), according to the manufacturer's instructions. RNA concentrations were quantified by UV spectrophotometry at λ=260 and 280 nm. In order to ensure even loading of the gel to be used for Northern blotting, RNA concentrations were further adjusted after recording fluorescence under UV light of RNA samples stained with ethidium bromide and run on a test denaturing gel.

Total RNA prepared as described above from leaves and developing seeds was electrophoresed through an agarose gel containing formaldehyde (Iba et al., 1993). An equal quantity (10 μg) of RNA was loaded in both lanes, and RNA standards (0.16-1.77 kb ladder, Gibco-BRL) were loaded in a third lane. Following electrophoresis, RNA was transferred from the gel to a nylon membrane (Hybond N+, Amersham) and fixed to the filter by exposure to UV light.

A ^{32}P-labelled probe was prepared from insert DNA of clone pLesq2 by random priming and hybridized to the membrane overnight at 52°C, after it had been prehybridized for 2 h. The prehybridization solution contained 5X SSC, 10X Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1M KPO_4 pH 6.8, 100 μg/ml salmon sperm DNA. The hybridization solution had the same basic composition, but no SDS, and it contained 10% dextran sulfate and 30% formamide. The blot was washed once in 2X SSC, 0.5% SDS at 65°C then in 1X SSC at the same temperature.

Brief (30 min) exposure of the blot to X-ray film revealed that the probe pLesq2 hybridized to a single band only in the seed RNA lane (Figure 7). The blot was re-probed with the insert from pLesq3 gene, which gave bands of similar intensity in the seed and leaf lanes (Figure 7).

These results show that the gene corresponding to the clone pLesq2 is highly and specifically expressed in seed of *L. fendleri*. In conjunction with knowledge of the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence, strong seed-specific expression of the gene corresponding to the insert in pLesq2 is a convincing indicator of the role of the enzyme in synthesis of hydroxylated fatty acids in the seed oil.

Characterization of a genomic clone of the kappa hydroxylase

Genomic DNA was prepared from young leaves of *L. fendleri* as described by Murray and Thompson (1980). A *Sau3AI*-partial digest genomic library constructed in the vector λDashII (Stratagene, 11011 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla CA 92037) was prepared by partially digesting 500 μg of DNA, size-selecting the DNA on a sucrose gradient (Sambrook et al., 1989), and ligating the DNA (12 kb average size) to the *BamHI*-digested arms of λDashII. The entire ligation was packaged according to the manufacturer's conditions and plated on *E. coli* strain XL1-Blue MRA-P2 (Stratagene). This yielded $5x10^5$ primary recombinant clones. The library was then amplified according to the manufacturer's conditions. A fraction of the genomic library was plated on *E. coli* XL1-Blue and resulting plaques (150,000) were lifted to charged nylon membranes (Hybond N+, Amersham), according to the manufacturer's conditions. DNA was crosslinked to the filters under UV in a Stratalinker (Stratagene).

Several clones carrying genomic sequences corresponding to the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase were

isolated by probing the membranes with the insert from pLesq2 that was PCR-amplified with internal primers and labelled with ^{32}P by random priming. The filters were prehybridized for 2 hours at 65°C in 7% SDS, 1mM EDTA, 0.25 M Na_2HPO_4 (pH 7.2), 1% BSA and hybridized to the probe for 16 hours in the same solution. The filters were sequentially washed at 65°C in solutions containing 2 X SSC, 1 X SSC, 0.5 X SSC in addition to 0.1 % SDS. A 2.6 kb *XbaI* fragment containing the complete coding sequence for the kappa hydroxylase and approximately 1 kb of the 5' upstream region was subcloned into the corresponding site of pBluescript KS to produce plasmid pLesq-Hyd and the sequence determined completely using an automatic sequencer by the dideoxy chain termination method. Sequence data was analyzed using the program DNASIS (Hitachi Company).

The sequence of the insert in clone pLesq-Hyd is shown in Figures 8A-B. The sequence entails 1855 bp of contiguous DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:3). The clone encodes a 401 bp 5' untranslated region (i.e., nucleotides preceding the first ATG codon), an 1152 bp open reading frame, and a 302 bp 3' untranslated region. The open reading frame encodes a 384 amino acid protein with a predicted molecular weight of 44,370 (SEQ ID NO:4). The amino terminus lacks features of a typical signal peptide (von Heijne, 1985).

The exact translation-initiation methionine has not been experimentally determined, but on the basis of deduced amino acid sequence homology to the castor kappa hydroxylase (noted below) is thought to be the methionine encoded by the first ATG codon at nucleotide 402.

Comparison of the pLesq-Hyd deduced amino acid sequence with sequences of membrane-bound desaturases and the castor hydroxylase (Figures 9A-B) indicates that pLesq-Hyd is homologous to these genes. This figure shows an alignment of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase (SEQ ID NO:4) with the castor hydroxylase (van de Loo et al., 1995), the *Arabidopsis fad2* cDNA which encodes an endoplasmic reticulum-localized Δ12 desaturase (called fad2) (Okuley et al., 1994), two soybean fad2 desaturase clones, a *Brassica napus* fad2 clone, a *Zea mays* fad2 clone and partial sequence of a *R. communis* fad2 clone.

The high degree of sequence homology indicates that the gene products are of similar function. For instance, the overall homology between the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase and the *Arabidopsis* fad2 desaturase was 92.2% similarity and 84.8% identity and the two sequences differed in length by only one amino acid.

Southern hybridization

Southern analysis was used to examine the copy number of the genes in the *L. fendleri* genome corresponding to the clone pLesq-Hyd. Genomic DNA (5 μg) was digested with *Eco*RI, *Hin*dIII and *Xba*I and separated on a 0.9% agarose gel. DNA was alkali-blotted to a charged nylon membrane (Hybond N+, Amersham), according to the manufacturer's protocol. The blot was prehybridized for 2 hours at 65°C in 7% SDS, 1mM EDTA, 0.25 M Na_2HPO_4 (pH 7.2), 1% BSA and hybridized to the probe for 16 hours in the same solution with pLesq-Hyd insert PCR-amplified with internal primers and labelled with ^{32}P by random

priming. The filters were sequentially washed at 65°C in solutions containing 2 X SSC, 1 X SSC, 0.5 X SSC in addition to 0.1 % SDS, then exposed to X-ray film.

The probe hybridized with a single band in each digest of *L. fendleri* DNA (Figure 10), indicating that the gene from which pLesq-Hyd was transcribed is present in a single copy in the *L. fendleri* genome.

Expression of pLesq-Hyd in Transgenic Plants

There are a wide variety of plant promoter sequences which may be used to cause tissue-specific expression of cloned genes in transgenic plants. For instance, the napin promoter and the acyl carrier protein promoters have previously been used in the modification of seed oil composition by expression of an antisense form of a desaturase (Knutson et al., 1992). Similarly, the promoter for the β-subunit of soybean β-conglycinin has been shown to be highly active and to result in tissue-specific expression in transgenic plants of species other than soybean (Bray et al., 1987). Thus, other promoters which lead to seed-specific expression may also be employed for the production of modified seed oil composition. Such modifications of the invention described here will be obvious to one skilled in the art.

Constructs for expression of *L. fendleri* kappa hydroxylase in plant cells are prepared as follows: A 13 kb *Sal*I fragment containing the pLesq-Hyg gene was ligated into the *Xho*I site of binary Ti plasmid vector pSLJ44026 (Jones et al., 1992) (Figure 11) to produce plasmid pTi-Hyd and

transformed into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* strains GV3101 by electroporation. Strain GV3101 (Koncz and Schell, 1986) contains a disarmed Ti plasmid. Cells for electroporation were prepared as follows. GV3101 was grown in LB medium with reduced NaCl (5 g/l). A 250 ml culture was grown to OD_{600} = 0.6, then centrifuged at 4000 rpm (Sorvall GS-A rotor) for 15 min. The supernatant was aspirated immediately from the loose pellet, which was gently resuspended in 500 ml ice-cold water. The cells were centrifuged as before, resuspended in 30 ml ice-cold water, transferred to a 30 ml tube and centrifuged at 5000 rpm (Sorvall SS-34 rotor) for 5 min. This was repeated three times, resuspending the cells consecutively in 30 ml ice-cold water, 30 ml ice-cold 10% glycerol, and finally in 0.75 ml ice-cold 10% glycerol. These cells were aliquoted, frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -80°C.

Electroporations employed a Biorad Gene Pulser instrument using cold 2 mm-gap cuvettes containing 40 µl cells and 1 µl of DNA in water, at a voltage of 2.5 KV, and 200 Ohms resistance. The electroporated cells were diluted with 1 ml SOC medium (Sambrook et al., 1989, page A2) and incubated at 28°C for 2-4 h before plating on medium containing kanamycin (50 mg/l).

Arabidopsis thaliana can be transformed with the *Agrobacterium* cells containing pTi-Hyd as described in Example 1 above. Similarly, the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids in the transgeneic *Arabidopsis* plants can be demonstrated by the methods described in Example 1 above.

Constitutive expression of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase in transgenic plants

A 1.5 kb *Eco*RI fragment from pLesq-Hyg comprising the entire coding region of the hydroxylase was gel purified, then cloned into the corresponding site of pBluescript KS (Stratagene). Plasmid DNA from a number of recombinant clones was then restricted with *Pst*I, which should cut only once in the insert and once in the vector polylinker sequence. Release of a 920 bp fragment with *Pst*I indicated the right orientation of the insert for further manipulations. DNA from one such clone was further restricted with *Sal*I, the 5' overhangs filled-in with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I, then cut with *Sac*I. The insert fragment was gel purified, and cloned between the *Sma*I and *Sac*I sites of pBI121 (Clontech) behind the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter. After checking that the sequence of the junction between insert and vector DNA was appropriate, plasmid DNA from a recombinant clone was used to transform *A. tumefaciens* (GV3101). Kanamycin resistant colonies were then used for *in planta* transformation of *A. thaliana* as previously described.

DNA was extracted from kanamycin resistant seedlings and used to PCR-amplify selected fragments from the hydroxylase using nested primers. When fragments of the expected size could be amplified, corresponding plants were grown in the greenhouse or on agar plates, and fatty acids extracted from fully expanded leaves, roots and dry seeds. GC-MS analysis was then performed as previously described to characterize the different fatty acid species and

detect accumulation of hydroxy fatty acids in transgenic tissues.

Expression of the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase in yeast

In order to demonstrate that the cloned *L. fendleri* gene encoded a kappa hydroxylase, the gene was expressed in yeast cells under transcriptional control of an inducible promoter and the yeast cells were examined for the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids by GC-MS.

In a first step, a lambda genomic clone containing the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase gene was cut with *Eco*RI, and a resulting 1400 bp fragment containing the coding sequence of the hydroxylase gene was subcloned in the *Eco*RI site of the pBluescript KS vector (Stratagene). This subclone, pLesqcod, contains the coding region of the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase plus some additional 3' sequence.

In a second step, pLesqcod was cut with *Hin*dIII and *Xba*I, and the insert fragment was cloned into the corresponding sites of the yeast expression vector pYes2 (Invitrogen; Figure 12). This subclone, pLesqYes, contains the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase in the sense orientation relative to the 3' side of the Gal1 promoter. This promoter is inducible by the addition of galactose to the growth medium, and is repressed upon addition of glucose. In addition, the vector carries origins of replication allowing the propagation of pLesqYes in both yeast and *E. coli*.

Transformation of *S. cerevisiae* host strain CGY2557

Yeast strain CGY2557 (*MATα, GAL*, ura3-52, leu2-3, trp1, ade2-1, lys2-1, his5, can1-100*) was

grown overnight at 28°C in YPD liquid medium (10 g yeast extract, 20 g bacto-peptone, 20 g dextrose per liter), and an aliquot of the culture was inoculated into 100 ml fresh YPD medium and grown until the OD_{600} of the culture was 1. Cells were then collected by centrifugation and resuspended in about 200μl of supernatant. 40μl aliquots of the cell suspension were then mixed with 1-2μg DNA and electroporated in 2 mm-gap cuvettes using a Biorad Gene Pulser instrument set at 600 V, 200 Ω, 25 μF, 160μl YPD was added and the cells were plated on selective medium containing glucose. Selective medium consisted of 6.7 g yeast nitrogen base (Difco), 0.4 g casamino acids (Difco), 0.02 g adenine sulfate, 0.03 g L-leucine, 0.02 g L-tryptophan, 0.03 g L-lysine-HCl, 0.03 g L-histidine-HCl , 2% glucose, water to 1 liter. Plates were solidified using 1.5% Difco Bacto-agar. Transformant colonies appeared after 3 to 4 days incubation at 28°C.

Expression of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase in yeast

Independent transformant colonies from the previous experiment were used to inoculate 5 ml of selective medium containing either 2% glucose (gene repressed) or 2% galactose (gene induced) as the sole carbon source. Independent colonies of CGY2557 transformed with pYES2 containing no insert were used as controls.

After 2 days of growth at 28°C, an aliquot of the cultures was used to inoculate 5 ml of fresh selective medium. The new culture was placed at 16°C and grown for 9 days.

Fatty acid analysis of yeast expressing the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase

Cells from 2.5 ml of culture were pelleted at 1800g, and the supernatant was aspirated as completely as possible. Pellets were then dispersed in 1 ml of 1 N methanolic HCl (Supelco, Bellafonte, PA). Transmethylation and derivatization of hydroxy fatty acids were performed as described above. After drying under nitrogen, samples were redissolved in 50μl chloroform before being analyzed by GC-MS. Samples were injected into an SP2330 fused-silica capillary column (30 m x 0.25 mm ID, 0.25μm film thickness, Supelco). The temperature profile was 100 - 160°C, 25°C/min, 160 - 230°C, 10°C/min, 230°C, 3 min, 230-100°C, 25°C/min. Flow rate was 0.9 ml/min. Fatty acids were analyzed using a Hewlett-Packard 5971 series Msdetector.

Gas chromatograms of derivatized fatty acid methyl esters from induced cultures of yeast containing pLesqYes contained a novel peak that eluted at 7.6 min (Figure 13). O-TMS methyl ricinoleate eluted at exactly the same position on control chromatograms. This peak was not present in cultures lacking pLesqYes or in cultures containing pLesqYes grown on glucose (repressing conditions) rather than galactose (inducing conditions). Mass spectrometry of the peak (Figure 13) revealed that the peak has the same spectrum as O-TMS methyl ricinoleate. Thus, on the basis of chromatographic retention time and mass spectrum, it was concluded that the peak corresponded to O-TMS methyl ricinoleate. The presence of ricinoleate in the transgenic yeast cultures confirms the identity of the gene as a kappa hydroxylase of this invention.

EXAMPLE 3. OBTAINING OTHER PLANT FATTY ACYL HYDROXYLASES

The castor fah12 sequence could be used to identify other kappa hydroxylases by methods such as PCR and heterologous hybridization. However, because of the high degree of sequence similarity between Δ12 desaturases and kappa hydroxylases, the prior art does not teach how to distinguish between the two kinds of enzymes without a functional test such as demonstrating activity in transgenic plants or another suitable host (e.g., transgenic microbial or animal cells). The identification of the *L. fendleri* hydroxylase provided for the development of criteria by which a hydroxylase and a desaturase may be distinguished solely on the basis of deduced amino acid sequence information.

Figures 9A-B show a sequence alignment of the castor and *L. fendleri* hydroxylase sequences with the castor hydroxylase sequence and all publicly available sequences for all plant microsomal Δ12 fatty acid desaturases. Of the 384 amino acid residues in the castor hydroxylase sequence, more than 95% are identical to the corresponding residue in at least one of the desaturase sequences. Therefore, none of these residues are responsible for the catalytic differences between the hydroxylase and the desaturases. Of the remaining 16 residues in the castor hydroxylase and 14 residues in the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase, all but seven represent instances where the hydroxylase sequence has a conservative substitution compared with one or more of the desaturase sequences, or there is wide variability in the amino acid at that position in the various desaturases. By conservative, it is

meant that the following amino acids are functionally equivalent: Ser/Thr, Ile/Leu/Val/Met, Asp/Glu. Thus, these structural differences also cannot account for the catalytic differences between the desaturases and hydroxylases. This leaves just seven amino acid residues where both the castor hydroxylase and the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase differ from all of the known desaturases and where all of the known microsomal Δ12 desaturases have the identical amino acid residue. These residues occur at positions 69, 111, 155, 226, 304, 331 and 333 of the alignment in Figure 9. Therefore, these seven sites distinguish hydroxylases from desaturases. Based on this analysis, the present inventors believe that any enzyme with greater than 60% sequence identity to one of the enzymes listed in Figure 9 can be classified as a hydroxylase if it differs from the sequence of the desaturases at these seven positions. Because of slight differences in the number of residues in a particular protein, the numbering may vary from protein to protein but the intent of the number system will be evident if the protein in question is aligned with the castor hydroxylase using the numbering system shown herein. Thus, in conjunction with the methods for using the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase gene to isolate homologous genes, the structural criterion disclosed here teaches how to isolate and identify plant kappa hydroxylase genes for the purpose of genetically modifying fatty acid composition as disclosed herein.

EXAMPLE 4 - USING HYDROXYLASES TO ALTER THE LEVEL OF FATTY ACID UNSATURATION

Evidence that kappa hydroxylases of this invention can be used to alter the level of fatty acid unsaturation was obtained from the analysis of transgenic plants that expressed the castor hydroxylase under control of the cauliflower mosaic virus promoter. The construction of the plasmids and the production of transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants was described in Example 1 (above). The fatty acid composition of seed lipids from wild type and six transgenic lines (1-2/a, 1-2/b, 1-3/b, 4F, 7E, 7F) is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Fatty acid composition of lipids from *Arabidopsis* seeds. The asterisk (*) indicates that for some of these samples, the 18:3 and 20:1 peaks overlapped on the gas chromatograph and, therefore, the total amount of these two fatty acids is reported.

TABLE 2

Fatty acid	WT	1-2/a	1-2/b	1-3/b	4F	7E	7F
16:0	10.3	8.6	9.5	8.4	8.1	8.4	9
18:0	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.5	3.8	4.2
18:1	14.7	33	34.5	25.5	27.5	30.5	28.5
18:2	32.4	16.9	21	27.5	21.1	20.1	19.8
18:3	13.8	-	14.4	14.8	-	-	-
20:0	1.3	1.6	1	1.1	2.4	1.8	2
20:1	22.5	-	14.1	17.5	-	-	-
18:3 20:1*	-	31.2	-	-	32.1	30.8	30.6
Ricinoleic	0	0.6	0	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9
Densipolic	0	0.6	0	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.6
Lesquerolic	0	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.6
Auricolic	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1

The results in Table 2 show that expression of the castor hydroxylase in transgenic *Arabidopsis* plants caused a substantial increase in the amount of oleic acid (18:1) in the seed lipids and an approximately corresponding decrease in the amount of linoleic acid (18:2). The average amount of oleic acid in the six transgenic lines was 29.9% versus 14.7% in the wild type.

The precise mechanism by which expression of the castor hydroxylase gene causes increased accumulation of oleic acid is not known. However, an understanding of the mechanism is not required in order to exploit this invention for the directed alteration of plant lipid fatty acid composition. Furthermore, it will be recognized by one skilled in the art that many improvements of this invention may be envisioned. Of particular interest will be the use of other promoters which have high levels of seed-specific expression.

Since hydroxylated fatty acids were not detected in the seed lipids of transgenic line 1-2b, it seems likely that it is not the presence of hydroxylated fatty acids per se that causes the effect of the castor hydroxylase gene on desaturase activity. Protein-protein interaction between the hydroxylase and the Δ12-oleate desaturase or another protein may be required for the overall reaction (e.g., cytochrome b5) or for the regulation of desaturase activity. For example, interaction between the hydroxylase and this other protein may suppress the activity of the desaturase. In particular, the quaternary structure of the membrane-bound desaturases has not been established. It is possible that these enzymes are active as

dimers or as multimeric complexes containing more than two subunits. Thus, if dimers or multimers form between the desaturase and the hydroxylase, the presence of the hydroxylase in the complex may disrupt the activity of the desaturase.

Transgenic plants may be produced in which the hydroxylase enzyme has been rendered inactive by the elimination of one or more of the histidine residues that have been proposed to bind iron molecules required for catalysis. Several of these histidine residues have been shown to be essential for desaturase activity by site directed mutagenesis (Shanklin et al., 1994). Codons encoding histidine residues in the castor hydroxylase gene will be changed to alanine residues as described by Shanklin et al. (1994). The modified genes will be introduced into transgenic plants of *Arabidopsis*, and possibly other species such as tobacco, by the methods described in Example 1 of this application.

In order to examine the effect on all tissues, the strong constitutive cauliflower mosaic virus promoter may be used to cause transcription of the modified genes. However, it will be recognized that in order to specifically examine the effect of expression of the mutant gene on seed lipids, a seed-specific promoter such as the *B. napus* napin promoter may be used. An expected outcome is that expression of the inactive hydroxylase protein in transgenic plants will inhibit the activity of the endoplasmic reticulum-localized Δ12-desaturase. Maximum inhibition will be obtained by expressing high levels of the mutant protein.

In a further embodiment of this invention, mutations that inactivate other hydroxylases, such

as the *Lesquerella* hydroxylase of this invention, may also be useful for decreasing the amount of endoplasmic reticulum-localized Δ12-desaturase activity in the same way as the castor gene. In a further embodiment of this invention, similar mutations of desaturase genes may also be used to inactivate endogenous desaturases. Thus, expression of catalytically inactive fad2 gene from *Arabidopsis* in transgenic *Arabidopsis* may inhibit the activity of the endogenous fad2 gene product.

Similarly, expression of the catalytically inactive forms of Δ12-desaturase from *Arabidopsis* or other plants in transgenic soybean, rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm or corn may lead to inactivation of endogenous Δ12-desaturase activity in these plants. In a further embodiment of this invention, expression of catalytically inactive forms of other desaturases such as the Δ15-desaturases may lead to inactivation of the corresponding desaturases.

An example of a class of mutants useful in the present invention are "dominant negative" mutants that block the function of a gene at the protein level (Herskowitz, 1987). A cloned gene is altered so that it encodes a mutant product capable of inhibiting the wild type gene product in a cell, thus causing the cell to be deficient in the function of that gene product. Inhibitory variants of a wild type product can be designed because proteins have multiple functional domains that can be mutated independently, e.g., oligomerization, substrate binding, catalysis, membrane association domains or the like. In general, dominant negative

proteins retain an intact, functional subset of the domains of the parent, wild type protein, but have the complement of that subset either missing or altered so as to be nonfunctional.

Whatever the precise basis for the inhibitory effect of the castor hydroxylase on desaturation, because the castor hydroxylase has very low nucleotide sequence homology (i.e., about 67%) to the *Arabidopsis* fad2 gene (encoding the endoplasmic reticulum-localized Δ12-desaturase), the inhibitory effect of this gene, which is provisionally called "protein-mediated inhibition" ("protibition"), may have broad utility because it does not depend on a high degree of nucleotide sequence homology between the transgene and the endogenous target gene. In particular, the castor hydroxylase may be used to inhibit the endoplasmic reticulum-localized Δ12-desaturase activity of all higher plants. Of particular relevance are those species used for oil production. These include but are not limited to rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

By the above examples, demonstration of critical factors in the production of novel hydroxylated fatty acids by expression of a kappa hydroxylase gene from castor in transgenic plants is described. In addition, a complete cDNA sequence of the *Lesquerella fendleri* kappa hydroxylase is also provided. A full sequence of the castor hydroxylase is also given with various constructs for use in host cells. Through this invention, one can obtain

the amino acid and nucleic acid sequences which encode plant fatty acyl hydroxylases from a variety of sources and for a variety of applications. Also revealed is a novel method by which the level of fatty acid desaturation can be altered in a directed way through the use of genetically altered hydroxylase or desaturase genes.

All publications mentioned in this specification are indicative of the level of skill of those skilled in the art to which this invention pertains. All publications are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

Although the foregoing invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it will be obvious that certain changes and modifications may be practiced within the scope of the appended claims.

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SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT: Somerville, Chris
Broun, Pierre
van de Loo, Frank
Boddupalli, Sekhar S.

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Production of Hydroxylated Fatty Acids in Genetically Modified Plants

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 15

(iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
(A) ADDRESSEE: PILLSBURY MADISON & SUTRO
(B) STREET: 1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
(C) CITY: WASHINGTON
(D) STATE: D.C.
(E) COUNTRY: USA
(F) ZIP: 20005-3918

(v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 543 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

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AAAAAGATGA AGTCTTTGTC CCACCTAAGA AAGCTGCAGT 80

CANATGGTAT GTCAAATACC TCAACAACCC TCTTGGACGC 120

ATTCTGGTGT TAACAGTTCA GTTTATCCTC GGGTGGCCTT 160

TGTATCTAGC CTTTAATGTA TCAGGTAGAC CTTATGATGG 200

TTTCGCTTCA CATTTCTTCC CTCATGCACC TATCTTTAAG 240

GACCGTGAAC GTCTCCAGAT ATACATCTCA GATGCTGGTA 280

TTCTAGCTGT CTGTTATGGT CTTTACCGTT ACGCTGCTTC 320

ACAAGGATTG ACTGCTATGA TCTGCGTCTA CGGAGTACCG 360

CTTTTGATAG TGAACTTTTT CCTTGTCTTG GTCACTTTCT 400

TGCAGCACAC TCATCCTTCA TTACCTCACT ATGATTCAAC 440

CGAGTGGGAA TGGATTAGAG GAGCTTTGGT TACGGTAGAC 480

AGAGACTATG GAATCTTGAA CAAGGTGTTT CACAACATAA 520

CAGACACCCA CGTAGCACAC CAC 543

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 544 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

TATAGGCACC GGAGGCACCA TTCCAACACA GGATCCCTCG 40

AAAGAGATGA AGTATTTGTC CCAAAGCAGA AATCCGCAAT 80

CAAGTGGTAC GGCGAATACC TCAACAACCC TCCTGGTCGC 120

ATCATGATGT TAACTGTCCA GTTCGTCCTC GGATGGCCCT 160

TGTACTTAGC CTTCAACGTT TCTGGCAGAC CCTACAATGG 200

TTTCGCTTCC CATTTCTTCC CCAATGCTCC TATCTACAAC 240

GACCGTGAAC GCCTCCAGAT TTACATCTCT GATGCTGGTA 280

TTCTAGCCGT CTGTTATGGT CTTTACCGTT ACGCTGTTGC 320

ACAAGGACTA GCCTCAATGA TCTGTCTAAA CGGAGTTCCG 360

CTTCTGATAG TTAACTTTTT CCTCGTCTTG ATCACTTACT 400

TACAACACAC TCACCCTGCG TTGCCTCACT ATGATTCATC 440

AGAGTGGGAT TGGCTTAGAG GAGCTTTAGC TACTGTAGAC 480

AGAGACTATG GAATCTTGAA CAAGGTGTTC CATAACATCA 520

CAGACACCCA CGTCGCACAC CACT 544

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1855 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

ATGAAGCTTT ATAAGAAGTT AGTTTTCTCT GGTGACAGAG 40

AAATTNTGTC AATTGGTAGT GACAGTTGAA GCAACAGGAA 80

CAACAAGGAT GGTTGGTGNT GATGCTGATG TGGTGATGTG 120

TTATTCATCA AATACTAAAT ACTACATTAC TTGTTGCTGC 160

CTACTTCTCC TATTTCCTCC GCCACCCATT TTGGACCCAC 200

GANCCTTCCA TTTAAACCCT CTCTCGTGCT ATTCACCAGA 240

AGAGAAGCCA AGAGAGAGAG AGAGAGAATG TTCTGAGGAT 280

CATTGTCTTC TTCATCGTTA TTAACGTAAG TTTTTTTTGA 320

CCACTCATAT CTAAAATCTA GTACATGCAA TAGATTAATG 360

ACTGTTCCTT CTTTTGATAT TTTCAGCTTC TTGAATTCAA 400

GATGGGTGCT GGTGGAAGAA TAATGGTTAC CCCCTCTTCC 440

AAGAAATCAG AAACTGAAGC CCTAAAACGT GGACCATGTG 480

AGAAACCACC ATTCACTGTT AAAGATCTGA AGAAAGCAAT 520

CCCACAGCAT TGTTTCAAGC GCTCTATCCC TCGTTCTTTC 560

TCCTACCTTC TCACAGATAT CACTTTAGTT TCTTGCTTCT 600

ACTACGTTGC CACAAATTAC TTCTCTCTTC TTCCTCAGCC 640

TCTCTCTACT TACCTAGCTT GGCCTCTCTA TTGGGTATGT 680

CAAGGCTGTG TCTTAACCGG TATCTGGGTC ATTGGCCATG 720

AATGTGGTCA CCATGCATTC AGTGACTATC AATGGGTAGA 760

TGACACTGTT GGTTTTATCT TCCATTCCTT CCTTCTCGTC 800

CCTTACTTCT CCTGGAAATA CAGTCATCGT CGTCACCATT 840

CCAACAATGG ATCTCTCGAG AAAGATGAAG TCTTTGTCCC 880

ACCGAAGAAA GCTGCAGTCA AATGGTATGT TAAATACCTC 920

AACAACCCTC TTGGACGCAT TCTGGTGTTA ACAGTTCAGT 960

TTATCCTCGG GTGGCCTTTG TATCTAGCCT TTAATGTATC 1000

AGGTAGACCT TATGATGGTT TCGCTTCACA TTTCTTCCCT 1040

CATGCACCTA TCTTTAAAGA CCGAGAACGC CTCCAGATAT 1080

ACATCTCAGA TGCTGGTATT CTAGCTGTCT GTTATGGTCT 1120

TTACCGTTAC GCTGCTTCAC AAGGATTGAC TGCTATGATC 1160

TGCGTCTATG GAGTACCGCT TTTGATAGTG AACTTTTTCC 1200

TTGTCTTGGT AACTTTCTTG CAGCACACTC ATCCTTCGTT 1240

ACCTCATTAT GATTCAACCG AGTGGGAATG GATTAGAGGA 1280

GCTTTGGTTA CGGTAGACAG AGACTATGGA ATATTGAACA 1320

AGGTGTTCCA TAACATAACA GACACACATG TGGCTCATCA 1360

TCTCTTTGCA ACTATACCGC ATTATAACGC AATGGAAGCT 1400

ACAGAGGCGA TAAAGCCAAT ACTTGGTGAT TACTACCACT 1440

TCGATGGAAC ACCGTGGTAT GTGGCCATGT ATAGGGAAGC 1480

AAAGGAGTGT CTCTATGTAG AACCGGATAC GGAACGTGGG 1520

AAGAAAGGTG TCTACTATTA CAACAATAAG TTATGAGGCT 1560

GATAGGGCGA GAGAAGTGCA ATTATCAATC TTCATTTCCA 1600

TGTTTTAGGT GTCTTGTTTA AGAAGCTATG CTTTGTTTCA 1640

ATAATCTCAG AGTCCATNTA GTTGTGTTCT GGTGCATTTT 1680

GCCTAGTTAT GTGGTGTCGG AAGTTAGTGT TCAAACTGCT 1720

TCCTGCTGTG CTGCCCAGTG AAGAACAAGT TTACGTGTTT 1760

AAAATACTCG GAACGAATTG ACCACAANAT ATCCAAAACC 1800

GGCTATCCGA ATTCCATATC CGAAAACCGG ATATCCAAAT 1840

TTCCAGAGTA CTTAG 1855

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Ile Met Val Thr
5 10

Pro Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Glu Ala
15 20

Leu Lys Arg Gly Pro Cys Glu Lys Pro Pro
25 30

Phe Thr Val Lys Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile
35 40

Pro Gln His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro
45 50

Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Leu Thr Asp Ile
55 60

Thr Leu Val Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala
65 70

Thr Asn Tyr Phe Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro
75 80

Leu Ser Thr Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr
85 90

Trp Val Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly
95 100

Ile Trp Val Ile Gly His Glu Cys Gly His
105 110

His Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Val Asp
115 120

Asp Thr Val Gly Phe Ile Phe His Ser Phe
125 130

Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr
135 140

Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Asn Gly
145 150

Ser Leu Glu Lys Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro
155 160

Pro Lys Lys Ala Ala Val Lys Trp Tyr Val
165 170

Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ile
175 180

Leu Val Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Ile Leu Gly
185 190

Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser
195 200

Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Phe Ala Ser His
205 210

Phe Phe Pro His Ala Pro Ile Phe Lys Asp
215 220

Arg Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp
225 230

Ala Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu
235 240

Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ser Gln Gly Leu Thr
245 250

Ala Met Ile Cys Val Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu
255 260

Leu Ile Val Asn Phe Phe Leu Val Leu Val
265 270

Thr Phe Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu
275 280

Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Thr Glu Trp Glu Trp
285 290

Ile Arg Gly Ala Leu Val Thr Val Asp Arg
295 300

Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His
305 310

Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
315 320

Leu Phe Ala Thr Ile Pro His Tyr Asn Ala
325 330

Met Glu Ala Thr Glu Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile
335 340

Leu Gly Asp Tyr Tyr His Phe Asp Gly Thr
345 350

Pro Trp Tyr Val Ala Met Tyr Arg Glu Ala
355 360

Lys Glu Cys Leu Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Thr
365 370

Glu Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Val Tyr Tyr Tyr
375 380

Asn Asn Lys Leu

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 387 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Met Gly Gly Gly Gly Arg Met Ser Thr Val
5 10

Ile Thr Ser Asn Asn Ser Glu Lys Lys Gly
15 20

Gly Ser Ser His Leu Lys Arg Ala Pro His
25 30

Thr Lys Pro Pro Phe Thr Leu Gly Asp Leu
35 40

Lys Arg Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys Phe Glu
45 50

Arg Ser Phe Val Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Val
55 60

Ala Tyr Asp Val Cys Leu Ser Phe Leu Phe
65 70

Tyr Ser Ile Ala Thr Asn Phe Phe Pro Tyr
75 80

Ile Ser Ser Pro Leu Ser Tyr Val Ala Trp
85 90

Leu Val Tyr Trp Leu Phe Gln Gly Cys Ile
95 100

Leu Thr Gly Leu Trp Val Ile Gly His Glu
105 110

Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Glu Tyr Gln
115 120

Leu Ala Asp Asp Ile Val Gly Leu Ile Val
125 130

His Ser Ala Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser
135 140

Trp Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser
145 150

Asn Ile Gly Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val
155 160

Phe Val Pro Lys Ser Lys Ser Lys Ile Ser
165 170

Trp Tyr Ser Lys Tyr Ser Asn Asn Pro Pro
175 180

Gly Arg Val Leu Thr Leu Ala Ala Thr Leu
185 190

Leu Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe
195 200

Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Arg Phe
205 210

Ala Cys His Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Gly Pro Ile
215 220

Phe Ser Glu Arg Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr
225 230

Ile Ala Asp Leu Gly Ile Phe Ala Thr Thr
235 240

Phe Val Leu Tyr Gln Ala Thr Met Ala Lys
245 250

Gly Leu Ala Trp Val Met Arg Ile Tyr Gly
255 260

Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Cys Phe Leu
265 270

Val Met Ile Thr Tyr Leu Gln His Thr His
275 280

Pro Ala Ile Pro Arg Tyr Gly Ser Ser Glu
285 290

Trp Asp Trp Leu Arg Gly Ala Met Val Thr
295 300

Val Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Val Leu Asn Lys
305 310

Val Phe His Asn Ile Ala Asp Thr His Val
315 320

Ala His His Leu Phe Ala Thr Val Pro His
325 330

Tyr His Ala Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala Ile
335 340

Lys Pro Ile Met Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Arg Tyr
345 350

Asp Gly Thr Pro Phe Tyr Lys Ala Leu Trp
355 360

Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu Cys Leu Phe Val Glu
365 370

Pro Asp Glu Gly Ala Pro Thr Gln Gly Val
375 380

Phe Trp Tyr Arg Asn Lys Tyr
385

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 383 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Pro Val Pro
5 10

Thr Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Thr
15 20

Thr Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Lys Pro Pro
25 30

Phe Ser Val Gly Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile
35 40

Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro
45 50

Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Ile Ser Asp Ile
55 60

Ile Ile Ala Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala
65 70

Thr Asn Tyr Phe Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro
75 80

Leu Ser Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp
85 90

Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Ile
95 100

Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His His
105 110

Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp
115 120

Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser Phe Leu
125 130

Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser
135 140

His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser
145 150

Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
155 160

Gln Lys Ser Ala Ile Lys Trp Tyr Gly Lys
165 170

Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ile Met
175 180

Met Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Val Leu Gly Trp
185 190

Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly
195 200

Arg Pro Tyr Asp Gly Phe Ala Cys His Phe
205 210

Phe Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg
215 220

Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr Leu Ser Asp Ala
225 230

Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Phe Gly Leu Tyr
235 240

Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ala Gln Gly Met Ala Ser
245 250

Met Ile Cys Leu Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu
255 260

Ile Val Asn Ala Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr
265 270

Tyr Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro
275 280

His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu
285 290

Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp
295 300

Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn
305 310

Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His Leu
315 320

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr Asn Ala Met
325 330

Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu
335 340

Gly Asp Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro
345 350

Trp Tyr Val Ala Met Tyr Arg Glu Ala Lys
355 360

Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Arg Glu
365 370

Gly Asp Lys Lys Gly Val Tyr Trp Tyr Asn
375 380

Asn Lys Leu

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 384 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Gln Val Ser
5 10

Pro Pro Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Asp Asn
15 20

Ile Lys Arg Val Pro Cys Glu Thr Pro Pro
25 30

Phe Thr Val Gly Glu Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile
35 40

Pro Pro His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro
45 50

Arg Ser Phe Ser His Leu Ile Trp Asp Ile
55 60

Ile Ile Ala Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala
65 70

Thr Thr Tyr Phe Pro Leu Leu Pro Asn Pro
75 80

Leu Ser Tyr Phe Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp
85 90

Ala Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Val
95 100

Trp Val Ile Ala His Glu Cys Gly His Ala
105 110

Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Leu Asp Asp
115 120

Thr Val Gly Leu Ile Phe His Ser Phe Leu
125 130

Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser
135 140

His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser
145 150

Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Arg
155 160

Arg Ser Gln Thr Ser Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser
165 170

Thr Ser Thr Thr Phe Gly Arg Thr Val Met
175 180

Leu Thr Val Gln Phe Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro
185 190

Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg
195 200

Pro Tyr Asp Gly Gly Phe Ala Cys His Phe
205 210

His Pro Asn Ala Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg
215 220

Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala
225 230

Gly Ile Leu Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu Leu
235 240

Pro Tyr Ala Ala Val Gln Gly Val Ala Ser
245 250

Met Val Cys Phe Leu Arg Val Pro Leu Leu
255 260

Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr
265 270

Tyr Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro
275 280

His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu
285 290

Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp
295 300

Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Gln Gly Phe His Asn
305 310

Ile Thr Asp Thr His Glu Ala His His Leu
315 320

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met
325 330

Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu
335 340

Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro
345 350

Val Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg Glu Ala Lys
355 360

Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Arg Gln
365 370

Gly Glu Lys Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn
375 380

Asn Lys Leu Xaa

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 309 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Ser Leu Leu Thr Ser Phe Ser Tyr Val Val
5 10

Tyr Asp Leu Ser Phe Ala Phe Ile Phe Tyr
15 20

Ile Ala Thr Thr Tyr Phe His Leu Leu Pro
25 30

Gln Pro Phe Ser Leu Ile Ala Trp Pro Ile
35 40

Tyr Trp Val Leu Gln Gly Cys Leu Leu Thr
45 50

Arg Val Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Lys
55 60

Tyr Gln Trp Val Asp Asp Val Val Gly Leu
65 70

Thr Leu His Ser Thr Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr
75 80

Phe Ser Trp Lys Ile Ser His Arg Arg His
85 90

His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser Leu Asp Arg Asp
95 100

Glu Arg Val Lys Val Ala Trp Phe Ser Lys
105 110

Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ala Val
115 120

Ser Leu Leu Val Thr Leu Thr Ile Gly Trp
125 130

Pro Met Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly
135 140

Arg Pro Tyr Asp Ser Phe Ala Ser His Tyr
145 150

His Pro Tyr Arg Val Arg Leu Leu Ile Tyr
155 160

Val Ser Asp Val Ala Leu Phe Ser Val Thr
165 170

Tyr Ser Leu Tyr Arg Val Ala Thr Leu Lys
175 180

Gly Leu Val Trp Leu Leu Cys Val Tyr Gly
185 190

Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Gly Phe Leu
195 200

Val Thr Ile Thr Tyr Leu Arg Val His Tyr
205 210

Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu Lys Gly
215 220

Ala Leu Ala Thr Met Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly
225 230

Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His His Ile Thr
235 240

Asp Thr His Val Ala His His Leu Phe Ser
245 250

Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Leu Arg Val Lys
255 260

Pro Ile Leu Gly Glu Tyr Tyr Gln Phe Asp
265 270

Asp Thr Pro Phe Tyr Lys Ala Leu Trp Arg
275 280

Glu Ala Arg Glu Cys Leu Tyr Val Glu Pro
285 290

Asp Glu Gly Thr Ser Glu Lys Gly Val Tyr
295 300

Trp Tyr Arg Asn Lys Tyr Leu Arg Val
305

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 302 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

Phe Ser Tyr Val Val Tyr Asp Leu Thr Ile
5 10

Ala Phe Cys Leu Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr His
15 20

Tyr Phe His Leu Leu Pro Gly Pro Leu Ser
25 30

Phe Arg Gly Met Ala Ile Tyr Trp Ala Val
35 40

Gln Gly Cys Ile Leu Thr Gly Val Trp Val
45 50

Val Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Leu Leu Asp
55 60

Asp Ile Val Gly Leu Ile Leu His Ser Ala
65 70

Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr
75 80

Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly
85 90

Ser Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro
95 100

Lys Val Ser Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Pro
105 110

Gly Arg Val Leu Thr Leu Ala Val Thr Leu
115 120

Thr Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Leu
125 130

Asn Val Ser Gly Arg Pro Tyr Asp Arg Phe
135 140

Ala Cys His Tyr Asp Pro Tyr Gly Pro Ile
145 150

Tyr Ser Val Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Val Leu
155 160

Ala Val Val Tyr Gly Leu Phe Arg Leu Ala
165 170

Met Ala Lys Gly Leu Ala Trp Val Val Cys
175 180

Val Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Val Val Asn
185 190

Gly Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr Phe Leu Gln
195 200

His Thr His Val Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu
205 210

Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp
215 220

Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn
225 230

Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His Leu
235 240

Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala Met
245 250

Glu Ala Thr Val Glu Tyr Tyr Arg Phe Asp
255 260

Glu Thr Pro Phe Val Lys Ala Met Trp Arg
265 270

Glu Ala Arg Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro
275 280

Asp Gln Ser Thr Glu Ser Lys Gly Val Phe
285 290

Trp Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu Ala Met Glu Ala
295 300

Thr Val

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 372 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Met Thr Glu Lys
5 10

Glu Arg Glu Lys Gln Glu Gln Leu Ala Arg
15 20

Ala Thr Gly Gly Ala Ala Met Gln Arg Ser
25 30

Pro Val Glu Lys Pro Pro Phe Thr Leu Gly
35 40

Gln Ile Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Pro His Cys
45 50

Phe Glu Arg Ser Val Leu Lys Ser Phe Ser
55 60

Tyr Val Val His Asp Leu Val Ile Ala Ala
65 70

Ala Leu Leu Tyr Phe Ala Leu Ala Ile Ile
75 80

Pro Ala Leu Pro Ser Pro Leu Arg Tyr Ala
85 90

Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr Trp Ile Ala Gln Gly
95 100

Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Ser Leu Leu Asp Asp
105 110

Val Val Gly Leu Val Leu His Ser Ser Leu
115 120

Met Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys Tyr Ser
125 130

His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser
135 140

Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
145 150

Lys Lys Glu Ala Leu Pro Trp Tyr Thr Pro
155 160

Tyr Val Tyr Asn Asn Pro Val Gly Arg Val
165 170

Val His Ile Val Val Gln Leu Thr Leu Gly
175 180

Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Thr Asn Ala Ser
185 190

Gly Arg Pro Tyr Pro Arg Phe Ala Cys His
195 200

Phe Asp Pro Tyr Gly Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp
205 210

Arg Glu Arg Ala Gln Ile Phe Val Ser Asp
215 220

Ala Gly Val Val Ala Val Ala Phe Gly Leu
225 230

Tyr Lys Leu Ala Ala Ala Phe Gly Val Trp
235 240

Trp Val Val Arg Val Tyr Ala Val Pro Leu
245 250

Leu Ile Val Asn Ala Trp Leu Val Leu Ile
255 260

Thr Tyr Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu
265 270

Pro His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp
275 280

Leu Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Met Asp Arg
285 290

Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Arg Val Phe His
295 300

Asn Ile Thr Asp Thr His Val Ala His His
305 310

Leu Phe Ser Thr Met Pro His Tyr His Ala
315 320

Met Glu Ala Thr Lys Ala Ile Arg Pro Ile
325 330

Leu Gly Asp Tyr Tyr His Phe Asp Pro Thr
335 340

Pro Val Ala Lys Ala Thr Trp Arg Glu Ala
345 350

Gly Glu Cys Ile Tyr Val Glu Pro Glu Asp
355 360

Arg Lys Gly Val Phe Trp Tyr Asn Lys Lys
365 370

Phe Xaa

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 224 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS:
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

Trp Val Met Ala His Asp Cys Gly His His
5 10

Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Leu Leu Asp Asp
15 20

Val Val Gly Leu Ile Leu His Ser Cys Leu
25 30

Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp Lys His Ser
35 40

His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Thr Gly Ser
45 50

Leu Glu Arg Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Lys
55 60

Lys Lys Ser Ser Ile Arg Trp Tyr Ser Lys
65 70

Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Pro Gly Arg Ile Met
75 80

Thr Ile Ala Val Thr Leu Ser Leu Gly Trp
85 90

Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly
95 100

Arg Pro Tyr Asp Arg Phe Ala Cys His Tyr
105 110

Asp Pro Tyr Gly Pro Ile Tyr Asn Asp Arg
115 120

Glu Arg Ile Glu Ile Phe Ile Ser Asp Ala
125 130

Gly Val Leu Ala Val Thr Phe Gly Leu Tyr
135 140

Gln Leu Ala Ile Ala Lys Gly Leu Ala Trp
145 150

Val Val Cys Val Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu
155 160

Val Val Asn Ser Phe Leu Val Leu Ile Thr
165 170

Phe Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ala Leu Pro
175 180

His Tyr Asp Ser Ser Glu Trp Asp Trp Leu
185 190

Arg Gly Ala Leu Ala Thr Val Asp Arg Asp
195 200

Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn
205 210

Ile Thr Asp Thr Gln Val Ala His His Leu
215 220

Phe Thr Met Pro

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GCTCTTTTGT GCGCTCATTC 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

CGGTACCAGA AAACGCCTTG 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

TAYWSNCAYM GNMGNCAYCA 20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 21 nucleotides
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

RTGRTGNGCN ACRTGNGTRT C 21

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of altering an amount of an unsaturated fatty acid in a seed of a plant comprising: decreasing a fatty acid desaturase activity in the seed by genetic manipulation of at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein an endogenous gene for said fatty acid hydroxylase is mutated and thereby decreases fatty acid hydroxylase activity in the seed.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase or derivative thereof.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said derivative is a dominant negative mutant which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

5. The method of Claim 3, wherein said derivative is a mutant fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein an endogenous gene for said fatty acid desaturase is mutated and thereby decreases fatty acid desaturase activity in the seed.

7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is transformed with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid desaturase or derivative thereof.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein said derivative is a dominant negative mutant which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

9. The method of Claim 7, wherein said derivative is a mutant fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

11. A method of altering an amount of a unsaturated fatty acid comprising:

(a) transforming a plant cell with a nucleic acid containing a sequence which encodes a fatty acid hydroxylase or a dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase or a dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase,

(b) growing a seed-bearing plant from the transformed plant cell of step (a), and

(c) identifying a seed from the plant of step (b) with the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

12. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

13. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid hydroxylase which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

14. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

15. The method of Claim 11, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence which encodes the dominant negative mutant of fatty acid desaturase which thereby alters the amount of the unsaturated fatty acid in the seed.

16. The method of Claim 11, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of rapeseed, *Crambe*, *Brassica juncea*, canola, flax, sunflower, safflower, cotton, cuphea, soybean, peanut, coconut, oil palm and corn.

17. A recombinant nucleic acid suitable for use in Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding a fatty acid hydroxylase with an

amino acid identity of 60% or greater to SEQ ID NO:4.

18. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein the amino acid identity is 90% or greater to SEQ ID NO:4.

19. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein the amino acid identity is 100% of SEQ ID NO:4.

20. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence having a nucleotide identity of 90% or greater to SEQ ID NO:1, 2 or 3.

21. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid contains SEQ ID NO:1, 2 or 3.

22. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 17, wherein said sequence is obtainable from a plant species producing a hydroxylated fatty acid.

23. A recombinant nucleic acid suitable for use in Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase.

24. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said sequence is obtainable from *Ricinus communis* (L.) (castor).

25. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said sequence is obtainable from *Lesquerella fendleri*.

26. The recombinant nucleic acid of Claim 23, wherein said nucleic acid contains a sequence encoding at least one of fatty acid desaturase or fatty acid hydroxylase in which one or more essential histidine residues have been mutated.

27. The method of Claim 1 further comprising: processing the seed containing the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid to obtain oil and/or seed meal.

28. Oil obtained by the method of Claim 27.

29. Seed meal obtained by the method of Claim 27.

30. Plant obtained by the method of Claim 1.

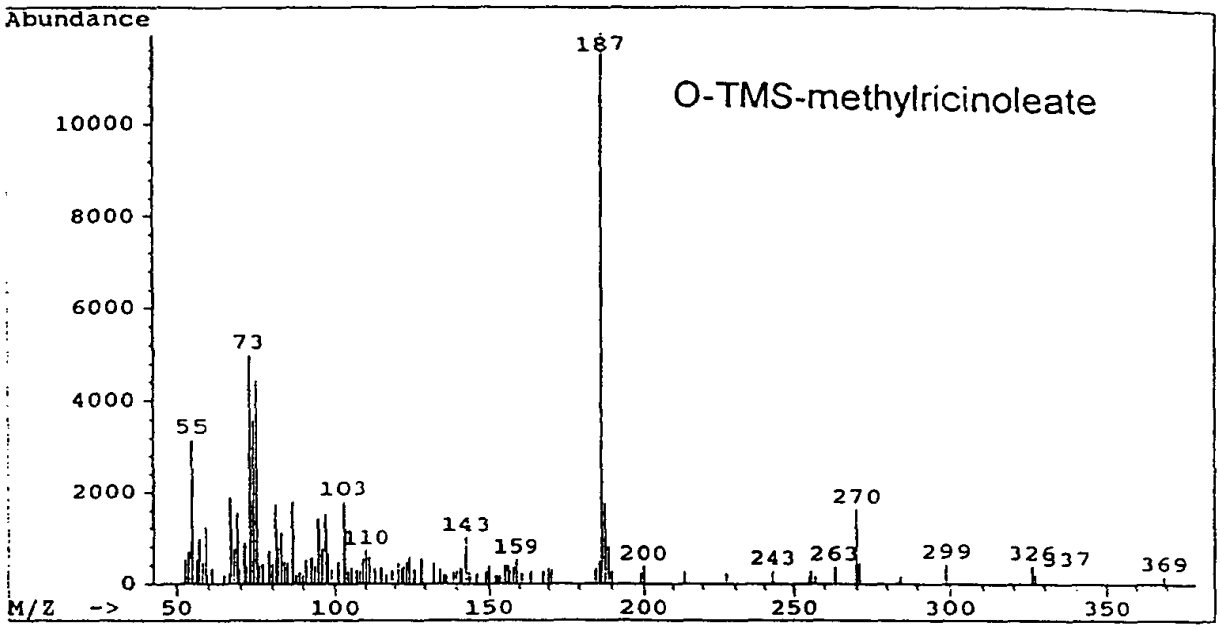
31. The method of Claim 11 further comprising: processing the seed containing the altered amount of the unsaturated fatty acid to obtain oil and/or seed meal.

32. Oil obtained by the method of Claim 31.

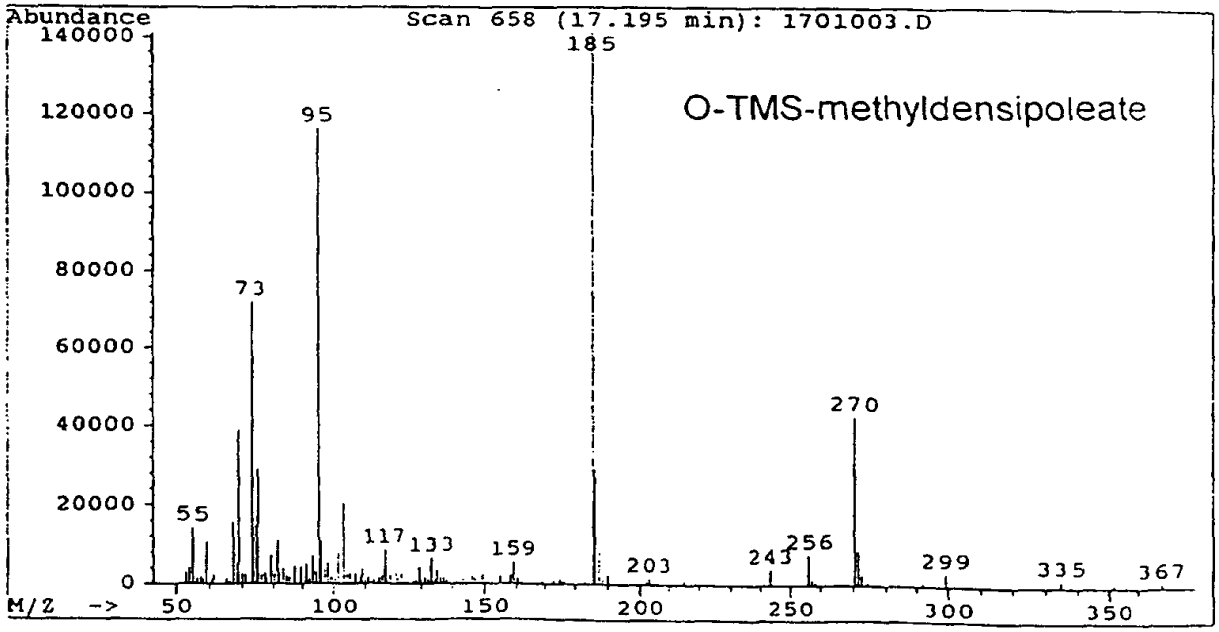
33. Seed meal obtained by the method of Claim 31.

34. Plant obtained by the method of Claim 11.

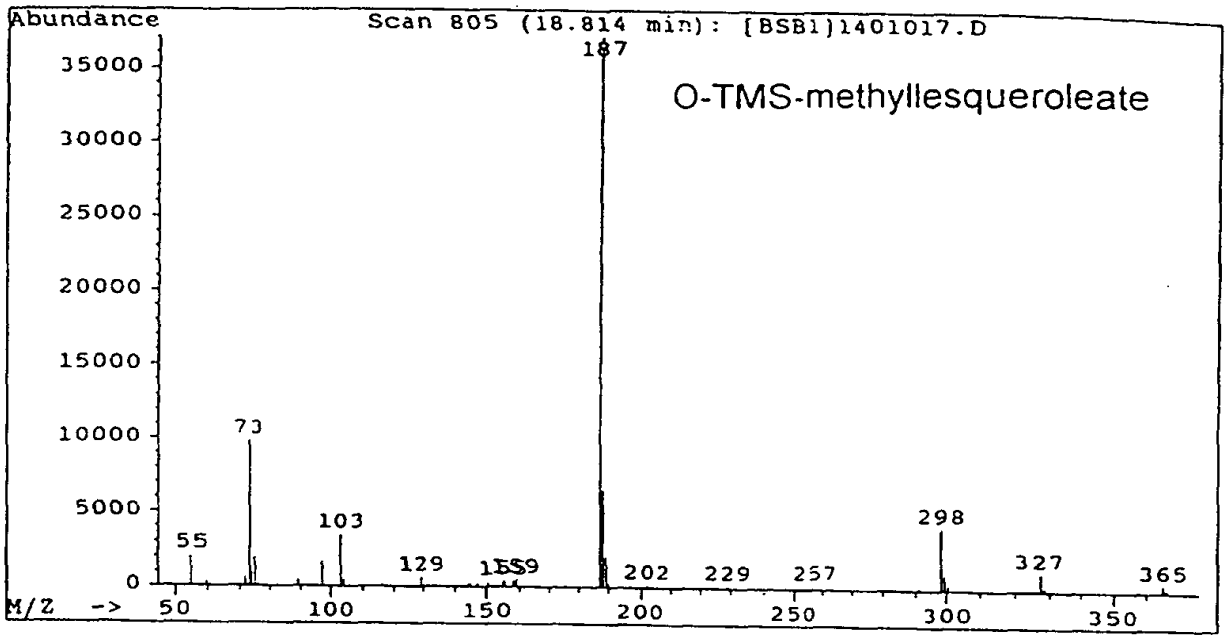
Figure 1A


Abundance
187
O-TMS-methylricinoleate
10000
8000
6000
4000
2000
0
73
55
103
110
143
159
200
243
263
270
299
326
337
369
M/Z ->
50
100
150
200
250
300
350

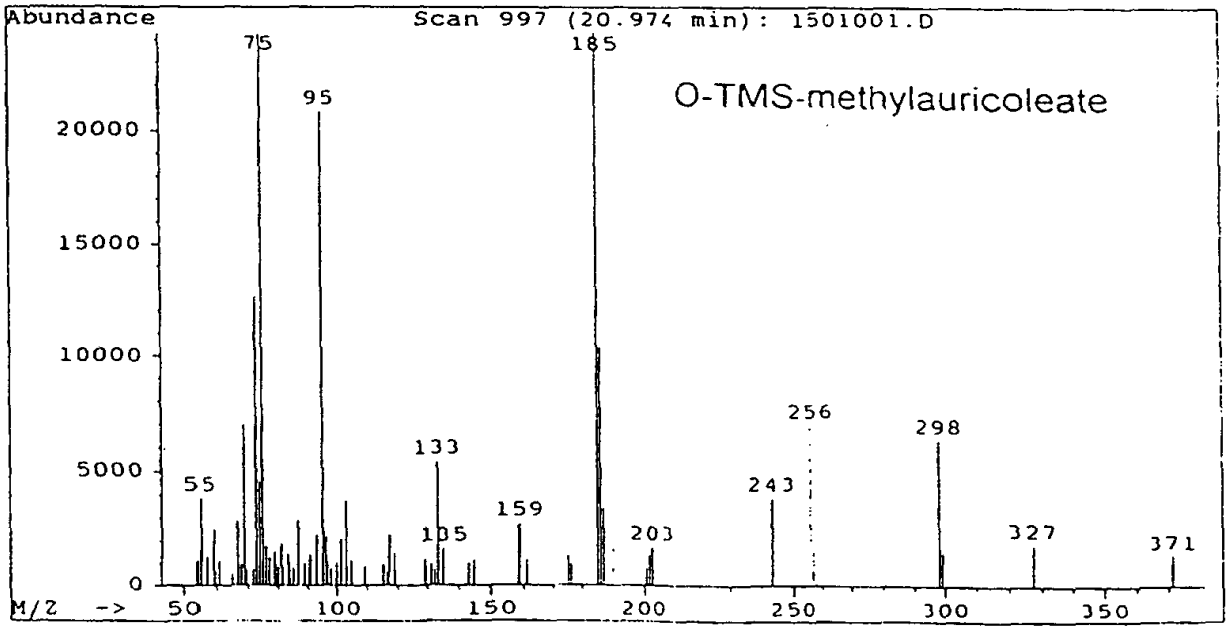
1B

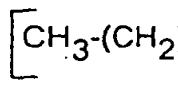

Abundance
Scan 658 (17.195 min): 1701003.D
185
O-TMS-methyldensipoleate
140000
120000
100000
80000
60000
40000
20000
0
95
73
55
117
133
159
203
243
256
270
299
335
367
M/Z ->
50
100
150
200
250
300
350

1C

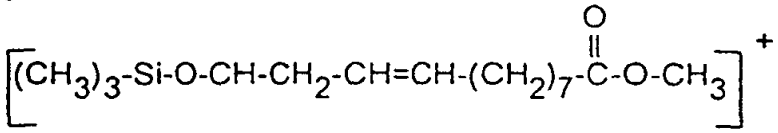

Abundance
Scan 805 (18.814 min): [BSB1]1401017.D
187
O-TMS-methyllesqueroleate
35000
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
73
55
103
129
159
202
229
257
298
327
365
M/Z -> 50 100 150 200 250 300 350

1D

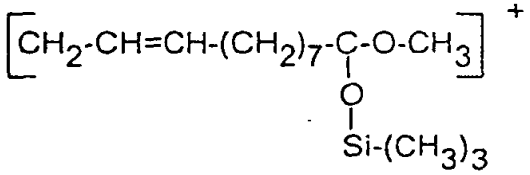

Abundance
Scan 997 (20.974 min): 1501001.D
75
185
95
O-TMS-methylauricoleate
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
55
133
135
159
203
243
256
298
327
371
M/Z -> 50 100 150 200 250 300 350

Ion #1: Mass 187 

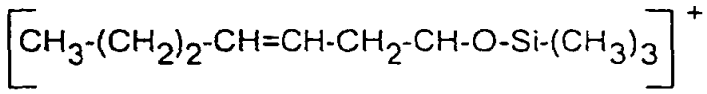
Ion #2: Mass 299



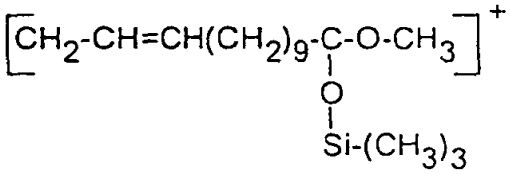
Ion #3: Mass 270 (characteristic rearrangement ion)



Ion #4: Mass 185 (desaturated analog of Ion #1)



Ion #5: Mass 298 (elongated analog of Ion #3)



Ion #6: Mass 327 (elongated analog of ion

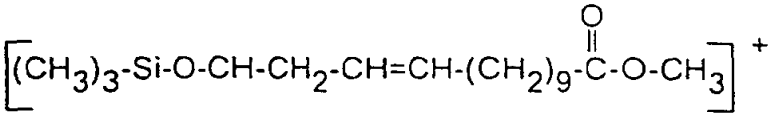


Figure 2

Figure 3

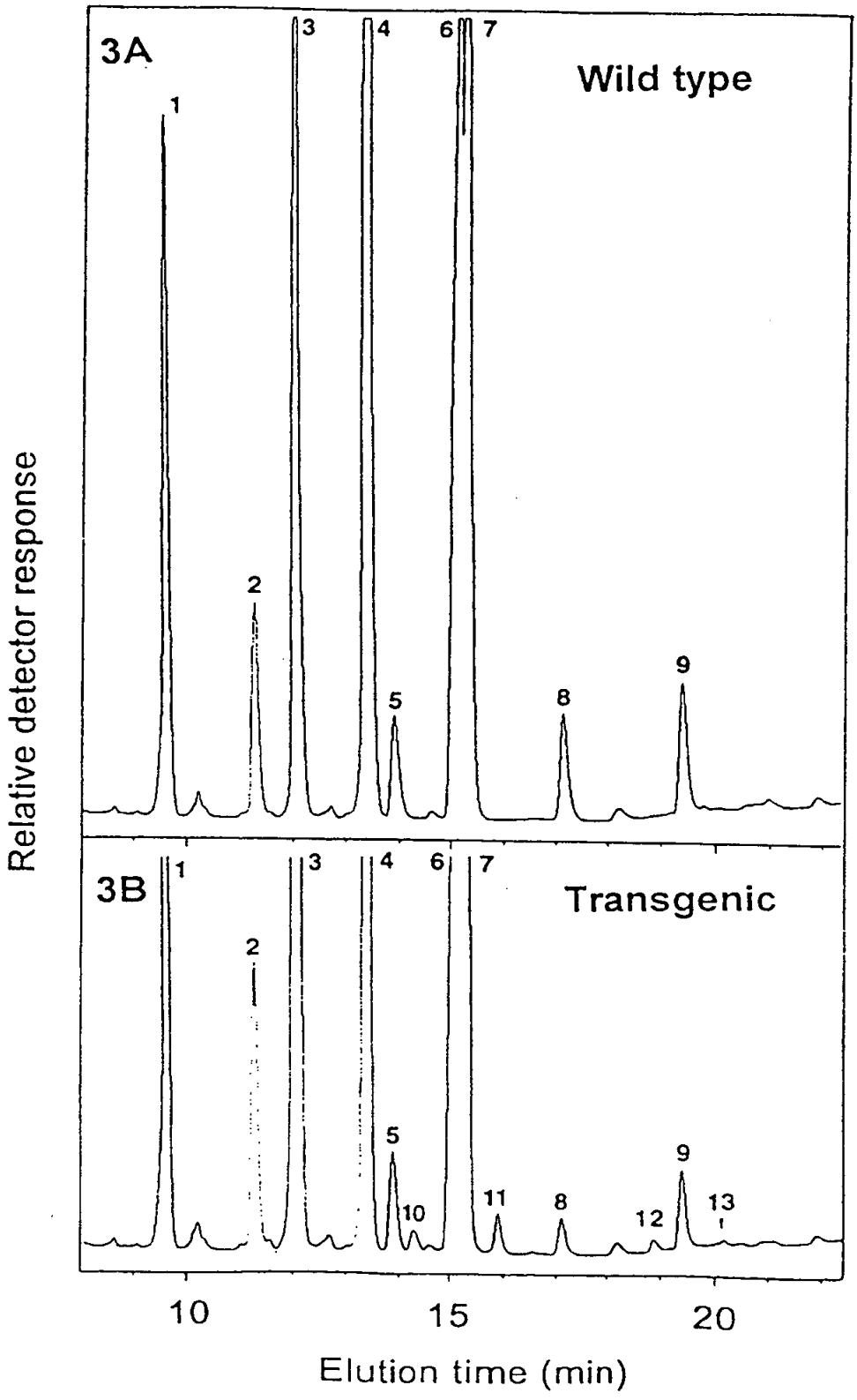
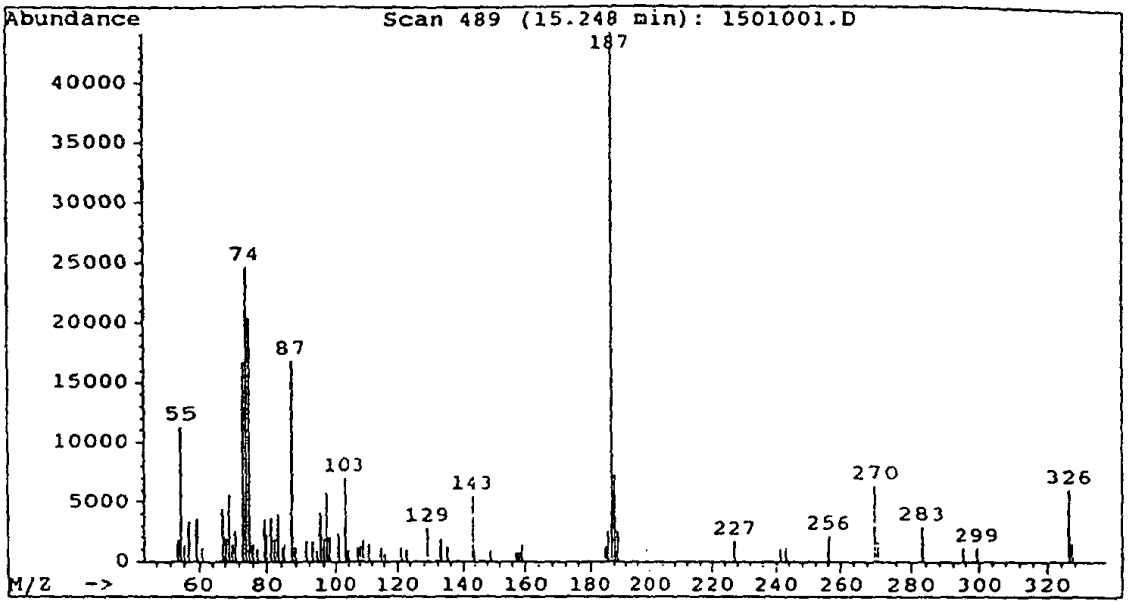
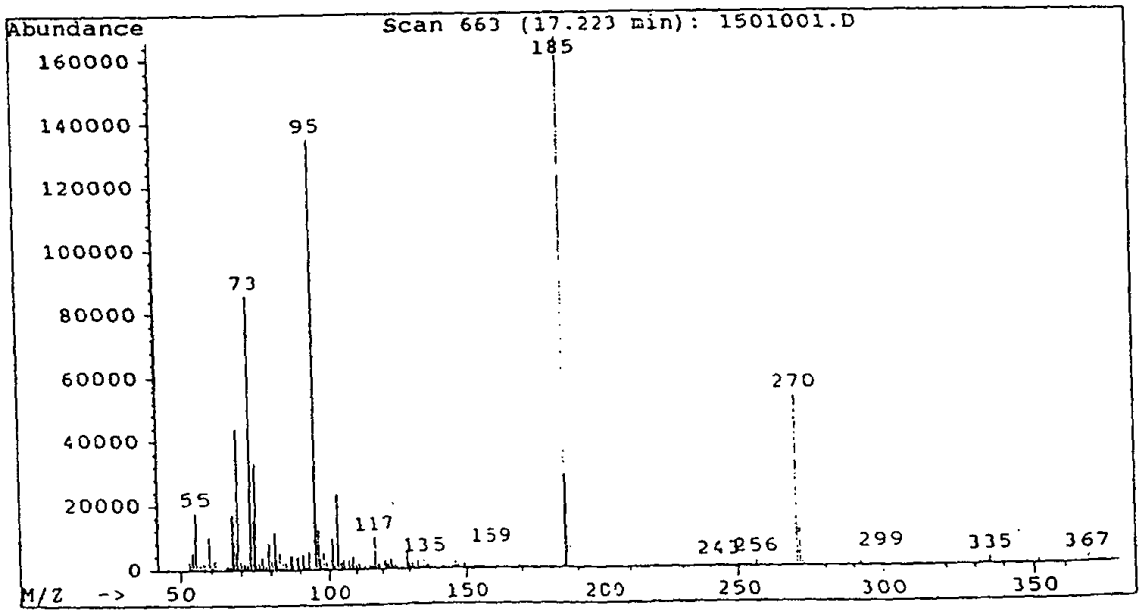

3A
Wild type
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
3B
Transgenic
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
Relative detector response
10
15
20
Elution time (min)

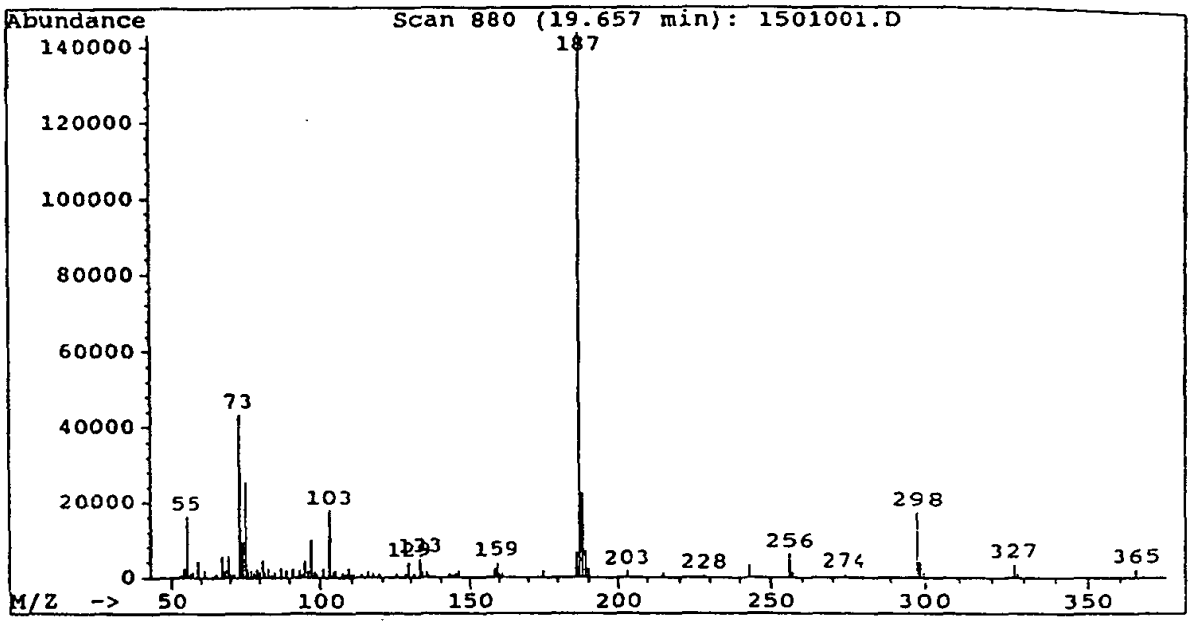
Figure 4A Mass spectrum of peak 10 from figure 3B



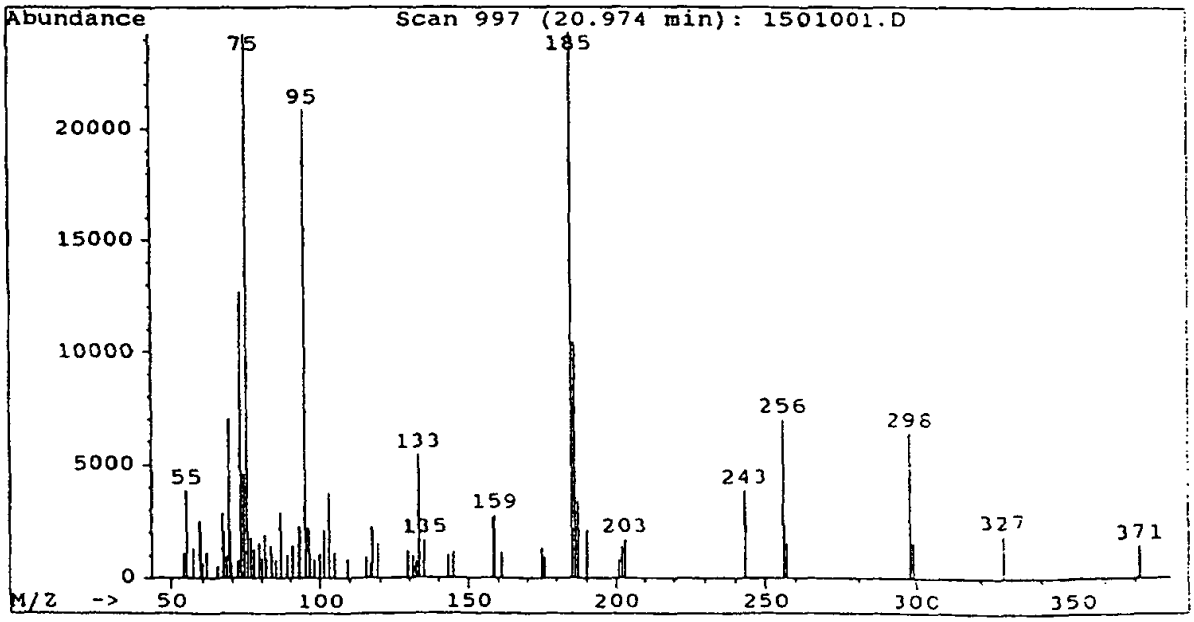
4B Mass spectrum of peak 11 from figure 3B



4C Mass spectrum of peak 12 from figure 3B



4D Mass spectrum of peak 13 from figure 3B



```
        10          20          30          40          50          60
TATTGGCACC  GGCGGCACCA  TTCCAACAAT  GGATCCCTAG  AAAAAGATGA  AGTCTTTGTC
        70          80          90         100         110         120
CCACCTAAGA  AAGCTGCAGT  CANATGGTAT  GTCAAATACC  TCAACAACCC  TCTTGGACGC
       130         140         150         160         170         180
ATTCTGGTGT  TAACAGTTCA  GTTTATCCTC  GGGTGGCCTT  TGTATCTAGC  CTTTAATGTA
       190         200         210         220         230         240
TCAGGTAGAC  CTTATGATGG  TTTCGCTTCA  CATTTCTTCC  CTCATGCACC  TATCTTTAAG
       250         260         270         280         290         300
GACCGTGAAC  GTCTCCAGAT  ATACATCTCA  GATGCTGGTA  TTCTAGCTGT  CTGTTATGGT
       310         320         330         340         350         360
CTTTACCGTT  ACGCTGCTTC  ACAAGGATTG  ACTGCTATGA  TCTGCGTCTA  CGGAGTACCG
       370         380         390         400         410         420
CTTTTGATAG  TGAACTTTTT  CCTTGTCTTG  GTCACTTTCT  TGCAGCACAC  TCATCCTTCA
       430         440         450         460         470         480
TTACCTCACT  ATGATTCAAC  CGAGTGGGAA  TGGATTAGAG  GAGCTTTGGT  TACGGTAGAC
       490         500         510         520         530         540
AGAGACTATG  GAATCTTGAA  CAAGGTGTTT  CACAACATAA  CAGACACCCA  CGTAGCACAC
       550
CAC
```

Figure 5

```
        10          20          30          40          50          60
TATAGGCACC  GGAGGCACCA  TTCCAACACA  GGATCCCTCG  AAAGAGATGA  AGTATTTGTC
        70          80          90         100         110         120
CCAAAGCAGA  AATCCGCAAT  CAAGTGGTAC  GGCGAATACC  TCAACAACCC  TCCTGGTCGC
       130         140         150         160         170         180
ATCATGATGT  TAACTGTCCA  GTTCGTCCTC  GGATGGCCCT  TGTACTTAGC  CTTCAACGTT
       190         200         210         220         230         240
TCTGGCAGAC  CCTACAATGG  TTTCGCTTCC  CATTTCTTCC  CCAATGCTCC  TATCTACAAC
       250         260         270         280         290         300
GACCGTGAAC  GCCTCCAGAT  TTACATCTCT  GATGCTGGTA  TTCTAGCCGT  CTGTTATGGT
       310         320         330         340         350         360
CTTTACCGTT  ACGCTGTTGC  ACAAGGACTA  GCCTCAATGA  TCTGTCTAAA  CGGAGTTCCG
       370         380         390         400         410         420
CTTCTGATAG  TTAACTTTTT  CCTCGTCTTG  ATCACTTACT  TACAACACAC  TCACCCTGCG
       430         440         450         460         470         480
TTGCCTCACT  ATGATTCATC  AGAGTGGGAT  TGGCTTAGAG  GAGCTTTAGC  TACTGTAGAC
       490         500         510         520         530         540
AGAGACTATG  GAATCTTGAA  CAAGGTGTTC  CATAACATCA  CAGACACCCA  CGTCGCACAC
       550
CACT
```

Figure 6

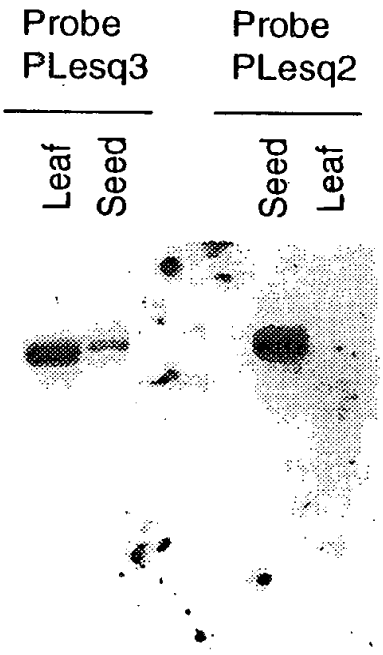


FIG.7

```
AT GAA GCT TTA TAA GAA GTT AGT TTT CTC TGG TGA CAG AGA AAT TNT      47

GTC AAT TGG TAG TGA CAG TTG AAG CAA CAG GAA CAA CAA GGA TGG TTG     95

GTG NTG ATG CTG ATG TGG TGA TGT GTT ATT CAT CAA ATA CTA AAT ACT    143

ACA TTA CTT GTT GCT GCC TAC TTC TCC TAT TTC CTC CGC CAC CCA TTT    191

TGG ACC CAC GAN CCT TCC ATT TAA ACC CTC TCT CGT GCT ATT CAC CAG    239

AAG AGA AGC CAA GAG AGA GAG AGA GAG AAT GTT CTG AGG ATC ATT GTC    287

TTC TTC ATC GTT ATT AAC GTA AGT TTT TTT TGA CCA CTC ATA TCT AAA    335

ATC TAG TAC ATG CAA TAG ATT AAT GAC TGT TCC TTC TTT TGA TAT TTT    383

                        Met Gly Ala Gly Gly Arg Ile Met Val Thr     10
CAG CTT CTT GAA TTC AAG ATG GGT GCT GGT GGA AGA ATA ATG GTT ACC    431

Pro Ser Ser Lys Lys Ser Glu Thr Glu Ala Leu Lys Arg Gly Pro Cys     26
CCC TCT TCC AAG AAA TCA GAA ACT GAA GCC CTA AAA CGT GGA CCA TGT    479

Glu Lys Pro Pro Phe Thr Val Lys Asp Leu Lys Lys Ala Ile Pro Gln     42
GAG AAA CCA CCA TTC ACT GTT AAA GAT CTG AAG AAA GCA ATC CCA CAG    527

His Cys Phe Lys Arg Ser Ile Pro Arg Ser Phe Ser Tyr Leu Leu Thr     58
CAT TGT TTC AAG CGC TCT ATC CCT CGT TCT TTC TCC TAC CTT CTC ACA    575

Asp Ile Thr Leu Val Ser Cys Phe Tyr Tyr Val Ala Thr Asn Tyr Phe     74
GAT ATC ACT TTA GTT TCT TGC TTC TAC TAC GTT GCC ACA AAT TAC TTC    623

Ser Leu Leu Pro Gln Pro Leu Ser Thr Tyr Leu Ala Trp Pro Leu Tyr     90
TCT CTT CTT CCT CAG CCT CTC TCT ACT TAC CTA GCT TGG CCT CTC TAT    671

Trp Val Cys Gln Gly Cys Val Leu Thr Gly Ile Trp Val Ile Gly His    106
TGG GTA TGT CAA GGC TGT GTC TTA ACC GGT ATC TGG GTC ATT GGC CAT    719

Glu Cys Gly His His Ala Phe Ser Asp Tyr Gln Trp Val Asp Asp Thr    122
GAA TGT GGT CAC CAT GCA TTC AGT GAC TAT CAA TGG GTA GAT GAC ACT    767

Val Gly Phe Ile Phe His Ser Phe Leu Leu Val Pro Tyr Phe Ser Trp    138
GTT GGT TTT ATC TTC CAT TCC TTC CTT CTC GTC CCT TAC TTC TCC TGG    815

Lys Tyr Ser His Arg Arg His His Ser Asn Asn Gly Ser Leu Glu Lys    154
AAA TAC AGT CAT CGT CGT CAC CAT TCC AAC AAT GGA TCT CTC GAG AAA    863

Asp Glu Val Phe Val Pro Pro Lys Lys Ala Ala Val Lys Trp Tyr Val    170
GAT GAA GTC TTT GTC CCA CCG AAG AAA GCT GCA GTC AAA TGG TAT GTT    911

Lys Tyr Leu Asn Asn Pro Leu Gly Arg Ile Leu Val Leu Thr Val Gln    186
AAA TAC CTC AAC AAC CCT CTT GGA CGC ATT CTG GTG TTA ACA GTT CAG    959
```

Figure 8A

```
Phe Ile Leu Gly Trp Pro Leu Tyr Leu Ala Phe Asn Val Ser Gly Arg     202
TTT ATC CTC GGG TGG CCT TTG TAT CTA GCC TTT AAT GTA TCA GGT AGA    1007

Pro Tyr Asp Gly Phe Ala Ser His Phe Phe Pro His Ala Pro Ile Phe     218
CCT TAT GAT GGT TTC GCT TCA CAT TTC TTC CCT CAT GCA CCT ATC TTT    1055

Lys Asp Arg Glu Arg Leu Gln Ile Tyr Ile Ser Asp Ala Gly Ile Leu     234
AAA GAC CGA GAA CGC CTC CAG ATA TAC ATC TCA GAT GCT GGT ATT CTA    1103

Ala Val Cys Tyr Gly Leu Tyr Arg Tyr Ala Ala Ser Gln Gly Leu Thr     250
GCT GTC TGT TAT GGT CTT TAC CGT TAC GCT GCT TCA CAA GGA TTG ACT    1151

Ala Met Ile Cys Val Tyr Gly Val Pro Leu Leu Ile Val Asn Phe Phe     266
GCT ATG ATC TGC GTC TAT GGA GTA CCG CTT TTG ATA GTG AAC TTT TTC    1199

Leu Val Leu Val Thr Phe Leu Gln His Thr His Pro Ser Leu Pro His     282
CTT GTC TTG GTA ACT TTC TTG CAG CAC ACT CAT CCT TCG TTA CCT CAT    1247

Tyr Asp Ser Thr Glu Trp Glu Trp Ile Arg Gly Ala Leu Val Thr Val     298
TAT GAT TCA ACC GAG TGG GAA TGG ATT AGA GGA GCT TTG GTT ACG GTA    1295

Asp Arg Asp Tyr Gly Ile Leu Asn Lys Val Phe His Asn Ile Thr Asp     314
GAC AGA GAC TAT GGA ATA TTG AAC AAG GTG TTC CAT AAC ATA ACA GAC    1343

Thr His Val Ala His His Leu Phe Ala Thr Ile Pro His Tyr Asn Ala     330
ACA CAT GTG GCT CAT CAT CTC TTT GCA ACT ATA CCG CAT TAT AAC GCA    1391

Met Glu Ala Thr Glu Ala Ile Lys Pro Ile Leu Gly Asp Tyr Tyr His     346
ATG GAA GCT ACA GAG GCG ATA AAG CCA ATA CTT GGT GAT TAC TAC CAC    1439

Phe Asp Gly Thr Pro Trp Tyr Val Ala Met Tyr Arg Glu Ala Lys Glu     362
TTC GAT GGA ACA CCG TGG TAT GTG GCC ATG TAT AGG GAA GCA AAG GAG    1487

Cys Leu Tyr Val Glu Pro Asp Thr Glu Arg Gly Lys Lys Gly Val Tyr     378
TGT CTC TAT GTA GAA CCG GAT ACG GAA CGT GGG AAG AAA GGT GTC TAC    1535

Tyr Tyr Asn Asn Lys Leu                                            384
TAT TAC AAC AAT AAG TTA TGA GGC TGA TAG GGC GAG AGA AGT GCA ATT    1583

ATC AAT CTT CAT TTC CAT GTT TTA GGT GTC TTG TTT AAG AAG CTA TGC    1631

TTT GTT TCA ATA ATC TCA GAG TCC ATN TAG TTG TGT TCT GGT GCA TTT    1679

TGC CTA GTT ATG TGG TGT CGG AAG TTA GTG TTC AAA CTG CTT CCT GCT    1727

GTG CTG CCC AGT GAA GAA CAA GTT TAC GTG TTT AAA ATA CTC GGA ACG    1775

AAT TGA CCA CAA NAT ATC CAA AAC CGG CTA TCC GAA TTC CAT ATC CGA    1823

AAA CCG GAT ATC CAA ATT TCC AGA GTA CTT AG                        1855
```

Figure 8B

```
                    10         20         30         40         50
LFFAH12      1 MGAGGRIM-- --VTPSSKKS --ETEALKRG PCEKPPFTVK DLKKAIPQHC      50
FAH12        1 MGGGGRMSTV ITSNNSEKKG --GSSHLKRA PHTKPPFTLG DLKRAIPPHC      50
ATFAD2       1 MGAGGRMP-- --VPTSSKKS --ETDTTKRV PCEKPPFSVG DLKKAIPPHC      50
BNFAD2       1 MGAGGRMQ-- --VSPPSKKS --ETDNIKRV PCETPPFTVG ELKKAIPPHC      50
GMFAD2-1     1 MGLA-KETTM GGRGRVAKVE VQGKKPLSRV PNTKPPFTVG QLKKAIPPHC      50
GMFAD2-2     1 MGAGGR---- TDVPPANRKS --EVDPLKRV PFEKPQFSLS QIKKAIPPHC      50
ZMFAD2       1 MGAGGRMTEK EREKQEQLAR ATGGAAMQRS PVEKPPFTLG QIKKAIPPHC      50
RCFAD2       1 ---------- ---------- ---------- ---------- ----------      50
                    60         70         80         90        100
LFFAH12     51 FKRSIPRSFS YLLTDITLVS CFYYVATNYF SLLPQPLSTY LAWPLYWVCQ     100
FAH12       51 FERSFVRSFS YVAYDVCLSF LFYSIATNFF PYISSPLS-Y VAWLVYWLFQ     100
ATFAD2      51 FKRSIPRSFS YLISDIIIAS CFYYVATNYF SLLPQPLS-Y LAWPLYWACQ     100
BNFAD2      51 FKRSIPRSFS HLIWDIIIAS CFYYVATTYF PLLPNPLS-Y FAWPLYWACQ     100
GMFAD2-1    51 FQRSLLTSFS YVVYDLSFAF IFY-IATTYF HLLPQPFS-L IAWPIYWVLQ     100
GMFAD2-2    51 FQRSVLRSFS YVVYDLTIAF CLYYVATHYF HLLPGPLS-F RGMAIYWAVQ     100
ZMFAD2      51 FERSVLKSFS YVVHDLVIAA ALLYFALAII PALPSPLR-Y AAWPLYWIAQ     100
RCFAD2      51 ---------- ---------- ---------- ---------- ----------     100
                   110        120        130        140        150
LFFAH12    101 GCVLTGIWVI GHECGHHAFS DYQWVDDTVG FIFHSFLLVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
FAH12      101 GCILTGLWVI GHECGHHAFS EYQLADDIVG LIVHSALLVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
ATFAD2     101 GCVLTGIWVI AHECGHHAFS DYQWLDDTVG LIFHSFLLVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
BNFAD2     101 GCVLTGVWVI AHECGHAAFS DYQWLDDTVG LIFHSFLLVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
GMFAD2-1   101 GCLLTGVWVI AHECGHHAFS KYQWVDDVVG LTLHSTLLVP YFSWKISHRR     150
GMFAD2-2   101 GCILTGVWVI AHECGHHAFS DYQLLDDIVG LILHSALLVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
ZMFAD2     101 G--------- -------AFS DYSLLDDVVG LVLHSSLMVP YFSWKYSHRR     150
RCFAD2     101 -------WVM AHDCGHHAFS DYQLLDDVVG LILHSCLLVP YFSWKHSHRR     150
                   160        170        180        190        200
LFFAH12    151 HHSNNGSLEK DEVFVPPKKA AVKWYVKYL- NNPLGRILVL TVQFILGWPL     200
FAH12      151 HHSNIGSLER DEVFVPKSKS KISWYSKYS- NNPPGRVLTL AATLLLGWPL     200
ATFAD2     151 HHSNTGSLER DEVFVPKQKS AIKWYGKYL- NNPLGRIMML TVQFVLGWPL     200
BNFAD2     151 HHSNTGSLER DEVFVPR-RS QTSSGTAST- STTFGRTVML TVQFTLGWPL     200
GMFAD2-1   151 HHSNTGSLDR DEVFVPKPKS KVAWFSKYL- NNPLGRAVSL LVTLTIGWPM     200
GMFAD2-2   151 HHSNTGSLER DEVFVPKQKS CIKWYSKYL- NNPPGRVLTL AVTLTLGWPL     200
ZMFAD2     151 HHSNTGSLER DEVFVPKKKE ALPWYTPYVY NNPVGRVVHI VVQLTLGWPL     200
RCFAD2     151 HHSNTGSLER DEVFVPKKKS SIRWYSKYL- NNPPGRIMTI AVTLSLGWPL     200
                   210        220        230        240        250
LFFAH12    201 YLAFNVSGRP YDG-FASHFF PHAPIFKDRE RLQIYISDAG ILAVCYGLYR     250
FAH12      201 YLAFNVSGRP YDR-FACHYD PYGPIFSERE RLQIYIADLG IFATTFVLYQ     250
ATFAD2     201 YLAFNVSGRP YDG-FACHFF PNAPIYNDRE RLQIYLSDAG ILAVCFGLYR     250
BNFAD2     201 YLAFNVSGRP YDGGFACHFH PNAPIYNDRE RLQIYISDAG ILAVCYGLLP     250
GMFAD2-1   201 YLAFNVSGRP YDS-FASHYH PYAPIYSNRE RLLIYVSDVA LFSVTYSLYR     250
GMFAD2-2   201 YLALNVSGRP YDR-FACHYD PYGPIYSDRE RLQIYISDAG VLAVVYGLFR     250
ZMFAD2     201 YLATNASGRP YPR-FACHFD PYGPIYNDRE RAQIFVSDAG VVAVAFGLYK     250
RCFAD2     201 YLAFNVSGRP YDR-FACHYD PYGPIYNDRE RIEIFISDAG VLAVTFGLYQ     250
```

Figure 9A

```
                        260        270        280        290        300
LFFAH12     251 YAASQGLTAM ICVYGVPLLI VNFFLVLVTF LQHTHPSLPH YDSTEWEWIR      300
FAH12       251 ATMAKGLAWV MRIYGVPLLI VNCFLVMITY LQHTHPAIPR YGSSEWDWLR      300
ATFAD2      251 YAAAQGMASM ICLYGVPLLI VNAFLVLITY LQHTHPSLPH YDSSEWDWLR      300
BNFAD2      251 YAAVQGVASM VCFLRVPLLI VNGFLVLITY LQHTHPSLPH YDSSEWDWLR      300
GMFAD2-1    251 VATLKGLVWL LCVYGVPLLI VNGFLVTITY LQHTHFALPH YDSSEWDWLK      300
GMFAD2-2    251 LAMAKGLAWV VCVYGVPLLV VNGFLVLITF LQHTHPALPH YTSSEWDWLR      300
ZMFAD2      251 LAAAFGVWWV VRVYAVPLLI VNAWLVLITY LQHTHPSLPH YDSSEWDWLR      300
RCFAD2      251 LAIAKGLAWV VCVYGVPLLV VNSFLVLITF LQHTHPALPH YDSSEWDWLR      300

                        310        320        330        340        350
LFFAH12     301 GALVTVDRDY GILNKVFHNI TDTHVAHHLF ATIPHYNAME ATEAIKPILG      350
FAH12       301 GAMVTVDRDY GVLNKVFHNI ADTHVAHHLF ATVPHYHAME ATKAIKPIMG      350
ATFAD2      301 GALATVDRDY GILNKVFHNI TDTHVAHHLF STMPHYNAME ATKAIKPILG      350
BNFAD2      301 GALATVDRDY GILNQGFHNI TDTHEAHHLF STMPHYHAME ATKAIKPILG      350
GMFAD2-1    301 GALATMDRDY GILNKVFHHI TDTHVAHHLF STMPHYHAME ATNAIKPILG      350
GMFAD2-2    301 GALATVDRDY GILNKVFHNI TDTHVAHHLF STMPHYHAME ATKAIKPILG      350
ZMFAD2      301 GALATMDRDY GILNRVFHNI TDTHVAHHLF STMPHYHAME ATKAIRPILG      350
RCFAD2      301 GALATVDRDY GILNKVFHNI TDTQVAHHLF ---------- ----------      350
                        360        370        380        390        400
LFFAH12     351 DYYHFDGTPW YVAMYREAKE CLYVEPDTER GKKGVYYYNN K-L.......      400
FAH12       351 EYYRYDGTPF YKALWREAKE CLFVEPDEGA PTQGVFWYRN KY-.......      400
ATFAD2      351 DYYQFDGTPW YVAMYREAKE CIYVEPDREG DKKGVYWYNN K-L.......      400
BNFAD2      351 EYYQFDGTPV VKAMWREAKE CIYVEPDRQG EKKGVFWYNN KL*.......      400
GMFAD2-1    351 EYYQFDDTPF YKALWREARE CLYVEPDEGT SEKGVYWYRN KY-.......      400
GMFAD2-2    351 EYYRFDETPF VKAMWREARE CIYVEPDQST ESKGVFWYNN KL-.......      400
ZMFAD2      351 DYYHFDPTPV AKATWREAGE CIYVEPE--- DRKGVFWYNK KF*.......      400
```

Figure 9B

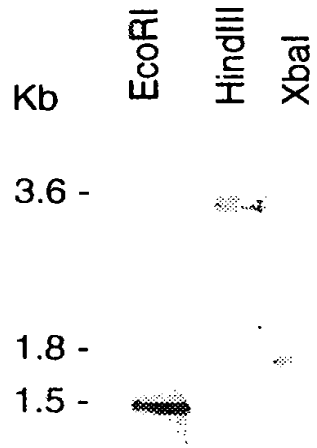
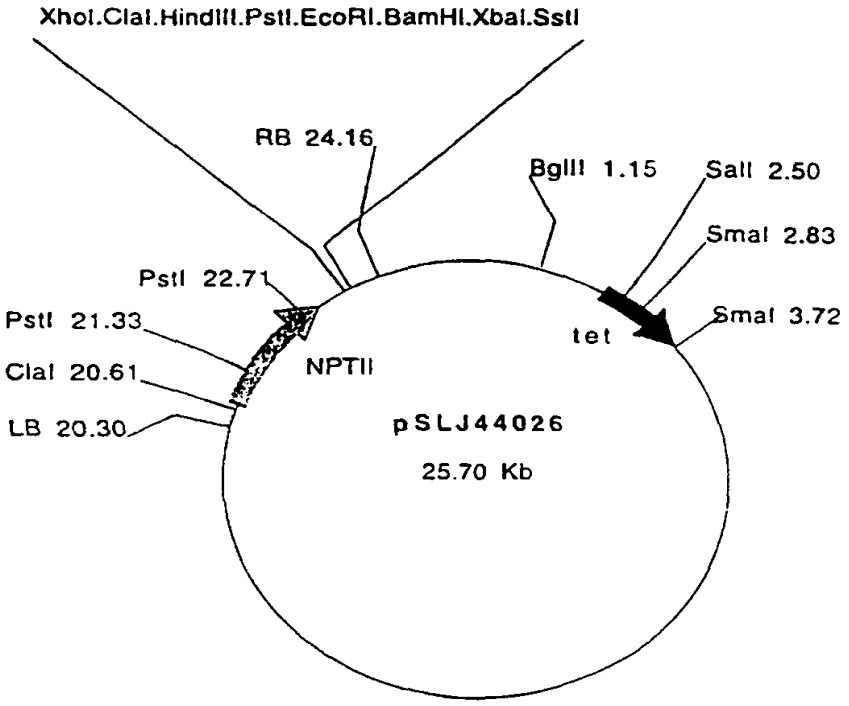


FIG.10



Plasmid name: pSLJ44026
Plasmid size: 25.70 kb
Constructed by: Jonathon Jones
Construction date: 1992
Comments/References: Transgenic Research 1,285-297 (1992)

Figure 11